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Clinton's Friend Remains 'Cool' In Grand Jury Questioning

Vernon Jordan's Testimony Is Expected to Hasten Close Of Inquiry Into Alleged Affair

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON - Vernon Jordan, one of President Bill Clinton's closest friends and a central figure in the allegations that Mr. Clinton sought to cover up a sexual relationship with a young woman, testified Tuesday before a grand jury here, and his lawyer said the powerful lobbyist was "fine, cool" and eager to tell the full truth.

Mr. Jordan, a personal adviser of Mr. Clinton's, spent hours answering questions that presumably touched on the core of the case. He will probably be asked to return

later in the week, said his attorney, William Hundley.
White House aides, outwardly calm about Mr. Jordan's appearance, said they were pleased that he had been called to testify and were certain his testimony would confirm the president's protestations of

The investigation of the president's relationship with a young intern, Monica Lewinsky, has reportedly strained Mr. Jordan's ties to president, making the two men more "circumspect" with each other, as the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, described it. Mr. Jordan has been absent from some White House functions where he would normally have been expected. While letting it be known that he has remained friendly with Mr. Clinton, Mr. Jordan has reportedly

complained about being called on to handle the Lew-insky matter for Mr. Clinton without being given a full explanation of the reasons. But Mr. Hundley insisted

Tuesday that "there is no rift" between the two men.

Mr. Hundley emerged after his client had been in the grand jury room for a few hours Tuesday to tell reporters that Mr. Jordan was "fine, cool," adding, 'He's done it before.'

Mr. Jordan's long-awaited appearance, after two earlier dates with the grand jury were postponed, appeared to bring the independent counsel, Kenneth Start, closer to the culmination of his investigation. He is examining allegations that Mr. Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky and then sought to influence her to deny it. Mr. Clinton has insisted the charges are false.

See CLINTON, Page 13



Vernon Jordan, right, walking up the steps of the courthouse in Washington on Tuesday.

Show of Defiance in Kosovo

Thousands of ethnic Albanians gathering Tuesday to mourn and bury some of the 20 people who were killed by the Serbian police in Kosovo Province last weekend. Twenty-one graves were dug, but with Serbian police blocking roads to the town, some vehicles carrying bodies did not make it to the site. Page 6.

China's Annual Rite of Spring

Delegates Gather to Rubber Stamp Party's New Leadership

By Erik Eckholm

BEUING - The National People's Congress, an annual public rite that brings together nearly 3,000 delegates from all parts of China, begins Thursday. This year's session holds more than usual interest

because it will ratify important changes in the country's leadership, including a major trimming of the Communist bureaucracy, as well as measures to bolster endangered state banks.

Opening a new stage in China's quest for a prosperous market economy, the giant meeting is primed to formally elect Zhu Rongji — economic chief for the last several years and a onetime mayor of Shanghai to the office of prime minister, running the day-to-day

operations of government.

He will replace Li Peng who has served the two legally permitted five-year terms and is expected to become chairman of the congress itself, say Chinese experts and foreign diplomats who track Communist Party decisions.

The president and Communist Party leader, Jiang

Zemin, 71, will remain preeminent within the circle of senior leaders, who serve on the Politburo and in government posts.

Mr. Zhu, 69, is respected here and abroad for skillfully guiding the economy out of high inflation.

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

JAKARTA --- Former Vice President Walter

Mondale said Tuesday that he had urged President

Suharto to press ahead with economic reforms

"There are no quick fixes," the American said

demanded by the International Monetary Fund.

after a 90-minute meeting during which he said he had delivered a "confidential message" from President Bill Clinton. "President Clinton is con-

cerned over the economic hardships of the In-donesian people," Mr. Mondale said. "The pres-

ident remains engaged in this issue, and that is the reason why he decided to send me as a personal

emissary to meet with President Suharto.

He will take over as China enters a new and painful phase in its economic transition, involving the pruning of vast state industries, remodeling the vulnerable banking system and dismantling the "iron rice bowl"

of lifetime jobs and welfare. His ascension also coincides with a slowdown in the nation's spectacular economic growth and a financial crisis in neighboring Asian countries that will hamper trade and investment.

Known for a sharp mind and blunt speech, Mr. Zhu has already started cracking heads in preparation for this week's congress, forcing through a wary party bureaucracy a plan to cut millions of party and government jobs and dismantle at least 10 of the country's 41 ministries and commissions.

This session of the National People's Congress, which opens Thursday and runs for roughly two weeks, is unlikely to make any major decisions on its own — as always, these were already taken in secret meetings of the Communist Party. But during this annual exercise in "people's democracy," the normally submerged iceberg of Chinese politics floats a little higher, exposing the thinking of the nation's

The legislature is far from a democratic forum: selection of its 2,980 members is supervised by

See CHINA, Page 8

to restore stability and economic growth in In-

donesia. We also discussed what steps were nec-

essary to restore confidence."

He added, "I believe that the central step in

restoring confidence is the full, demonstrable,

Mondale's push for following the IMF's pre-

other country, but it is very important when you

implement certain programs you investigate the

feasibility," the Japanese deputy finance minister for international affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, said.

[Treasurer Jean Lemierre of France said his

[Japan and France added their voices to Mr.

["I do not like to comment on the policy of the

visible implementation of the IMF reforms.'

scription. Reuters reported.

"We discussed the efforts that have taken place country's support for a plan to guarantee In-

U.S. Cautions Iraq: **UN Backs Attacks**

Russia, France and China Dispute Clinton View of Vote

By John M. Goshko

UNITED NATIONS, New York -The Security Council's warning of "the severest consequences" if Iraq breaks its agreement to allow United Nations weapons inspections gives the United States a green light in the event of further traqi obstruction, officials in Washington said Tuesday.

President Bill Clinton said that the UN resolution carried with it the "authority to act" - apparently a reference to mulitary strikes.

"The government of Iraq should be under no illusion," Mr. Clinton said at the White House. "The meaning of 'severest consequences' is clear — it provides authority to act if Iraq does not turn the commitment it has now made mie compliance."

Mr. Clinton avoided any explicit refetence to armed strikes, but the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, said earlier Tuesday that "severest consequences" meant military action.

That interpretation was disputed by several other Security Council members, including Russia, France and China, all permanent members like the United States. They said they interpreted the resolution to mean that military action cannot be taken against Iraq without specific authorization by the 15-country council.

Iraq's foreign minister described the resolution Tuesday as a face-saving measure for the United States.

But the minister, Mohammed Said Sahhaf, promised that Iraq would not back down from the agreement and said that Iraq did not believe the Security Council needed a resolution to enforce the deal.

"If there is any real meaning in this resolution, then it is the adoption and the endorsement" of the UN-Iraqi agreement reached last month, Mr. Sahhaf said in an interview from Baghdad with Associated Press Television. "The rest

is some kind of political rhetoric. The threat of consequences if Iraq violates the accord "is meant as facesaving for the Americans," he said. "We have to concentrate on the real work and not on the rhetoric." The Security Council stopped short of

giving the United States a specific go-

donesian letters of credit depended on the im-

xplanation of the country's economic turmoil.]
Mr. Suharto made no public comment after his

meeting with Mr. Mondale. But a spokesman said

the president had voiced concern that despite IMF

the president also explained that there had been no

See INDONESIA, Page 4

intervention, the Indonesian rupiah had not risen above 30 percent of its value last summer.

'President Suharto explained the importance of IMF support because of its high reputation, but

plementation of IMF reforms.

ahead to use force if Iraq again breaks its promises to cooperate with the inspectors

seeking weapons of mass destruction. The resolution, approved unanimously by the council late Monday, used deliberately ambiguous language to avoid saying whether any country can decide on its own to take action against Iraq or whether the council must authorize a military strike.

As a result, U.S. officials, who contend that they do not need UN permission to launch attacks against Iraq, were able to say they do not see any prohibition

See IRAQ, Page 13

Hindu Bloc Short Of India Majority

With election results nearly complete, India found itself Tuesday facing a tense contest for power between Hindu nationalists of the Bharatiya Janata Party and a putative alignment between the Congress (I) Party and the United Front, two groups that trailed the nationalists in the distribution of parliamentary seats. Page 5.

Electoral Stakes Rise in Germany As Strike Erupts

By Alan Cowell New York Times Service

BONN — As Germany's political titans squared off for national elections later this year, Wilfried Klumski and about 130,000 other municipal workers gave them a hint Tuesday of what their prize — or their burden whoever wins. Mr. Klumski, 45, is a bus driver in

Bonn with 20 years' experience. On Tuesday, at 4 A.M., he and his colleagues went on strike for five hours to reinforce union demands in wage talks underway in Stuttgart, as did tens of thousands of German public service workers elsewhere.

'No Quick Fixes,' U.S. Emissary Warns Suharto All told, Mr. Klumski said, 160 buses and 80 trams stayed in his depot in Bonn's Friesdorf district, and people

walked or drove to work. [Megawati Sukarnoputri, an Indonesian op-position leader, pressed Mr. Suharto for a better In Berlin, union officials like Mr. Klumski estimated, 1 million commuters got snarled in traffic or were late

for work. In Nuremberg, garbage-collectors surrounded city hall with garbage

In other cities, for brief but disruptive periods, trams stopped, clerks refused to type, schools did not open, and airline

lights were canceled or delayed.

The timing of the strikes — which started Monday, the same day Germany's opposition Social Democrats nominated Gerhard Schroeder to run

against Chancellor Helmut Kohl in September — was a coincidence. But the question, however uninten-tional, was equally clear for both con-

Both Mr. Kohl and Mr. Schroeder

talk of reform and modernization of the same economic system that provides people like Mr. Klumski with an array of benefits that is the envy of many in

And so, as Germany faces pressure to cut back on its welfare state, how much will people like Mr. Klumski and his comrades take when the bosses start talking about less sick pay and more expensive retirement pensions?

See GERMANY, Page 8

AGENDA

Senate Panel Backs NATO Expansion

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The about the alliance's future military Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Tuesday approved expanding NATO to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic and sent the measure to the full Senate for its ex-

The vote was 16 to 2, with some members expressing reservations

Balloonists' Dream: Around the World

The odds seem to be against completing a nonstop balloon trip around the world, a feat that has been attempted for more than a century. The failure last week of the fifth balloon to try this year marked the final venture for the 1997 season, limited by wind patterns. Of at least 22 attempts since 1873, not one has come close. Page 8.

mission and about enlargement. The panel chairman, Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, said it appeared the resolution would pass the Senate "on an overwhelmingly positive vote" and called the development "an obvious vote of confidence in the

PAGE TWO In Sudan, the War	r Staggers On .
EUROPE Russia May Legal	Page 6 lize Prostitution
Books	Page 4
Crossword	Page 6
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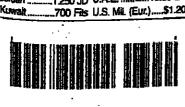
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DM	1.8104	1.8143
Pound	1.6515	1.6463
Yen	126.34	125.53
FF .	6.07	6.0837
	The Dow	
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	S&P 500	
change	Tuesday @ 4 P M.	previous close
+4.32	1052.02	1047.70

Asian Firms Beat a Retreat From U.S.

By Andrew Pollack New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES - When Hyundai Electronics Industries Co. of South Korea acquired Symbios Inc. from AT&T Corp. for more than \$300 million in 1994, it marked the beginning of a spurt of investment by South Korea's ambitious companies in the American market.

Now Symbios, a Colorado semiconductor company, might represent the beginning of a wave of divestitures in the wake of Asia's financial crisis. Anxious

for cash, Hyundai just sold Symbios to Adaptec Inc., a Silicon Valley company it had beaten in the bidding in 1994. The deal, announced Thursday, took less than three weeks to complete at a price of \$775 million, considered low by analysts.

"There's nothing like having an I'mgoing-to-sell-this seller and a willing buyer," said F. Grant Saviers, president

The Asian financial crisis has dealt a body blow to the U.S. operations of South Korean and other Asian companies. Subsidiaries and real estate are

being sold, branch offices closed people laid off or brought home, and once-ambitious investment plans are being scaled back or put on hold. The impact has been felt most in New York and Los Angeles, where Asian investments and businesses are concentrated.

"Most of the companies in Korea are cutting back," said Young Kim, president of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the United States. "Every subsidiary in the United States

See KOREA, Page 4

Bill Gates before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, rejecting accusations that he is seeking a monopoly in computer operating systems.

Gates Goes to Washington

Software King Defends Microsoft to Senators

Commical in the Staff From Departure

WASHINGTON - Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee closely questioned Bill Gates, the richest American, on Tuesday, in hearings on com-petition in the U.S. software market that focused on whether Microsoft Corp. should be regulated as a monopoly.

Mr. Gates held his temper and put in a generally good performance under the scrutiny. He rejected charges that his company holds a monopoly in computer operating systems and was seeking to turn the Internet into a private "toll road."

The Justice Department has charged that Microsoft is leveraging its dominance in operating-system software to gain business in the market for Internet

It was the first time that Mr. Gates had

restified to Congress. Technology companies in general, and Microsoft in particular, tend to keep low profiles in Washington. Although Mr. Gates was joined at the hearing by two of his most visible critics, they sought only enforcement of antitrust regulations against Microsoft, not new regulations on the industry. Scott McNealy, chairman of Sun Mi-

crosystems Inc., likened Microsoft's effective monopoly in personal-computer operating systems - the company's Windows software is on about 90 percent of new units sold around the world to control of the English language.

"We think left unchecked Microsoft has a monopoly position that they could use to leverage their way into

See GATES, Page 13

PAGE TWO

Riven by War/ 'Like the Americans in Vietnam'

The Misery of Stalemate in Sudan

John Garang, holds a strip of land and at least eight sizable towns along the southern border, as well as two towns in the southwestern state of Bahr el Ghazal.

Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Sudanes military officers say. But the rebel forces continue to be devil government troops with guerrilla tactics in the contryside, inflicing a stready stream of casualties and government outpost surrounded by rebel forces.

"I myself believe that it would be better to be two states," the former air force fighter pilot confides, echoing the view of many Sudanese Arabs in the north who are weary of the fighting. "We need to reach this point of truth. We can't live together."

For nearly a year, Juba has been isolated by the latest series of rebel offensives. For months, nebel leaders in Nairobi have predicted that this major river port, which controls access to the lower Nile, is about to fall. Yet the town has remained defiantly in the government to the post of the substance of the small villages of fensives. For months, nebel leaders in Nairobi have predicted that this major river port, which controls access to the lower Nile, is about to fall. Yet the town has remained defiantly in the government troops with guerrilla tactics in the countryside appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appears able to deal a decisive blow. Neither side appe

river port, which controls access to the lower Nile, is about to fall. Yet the town has remained defiantly in the hands of the government, supplied only by air and river barge, and its isolation is in many ways emblematic of the stalemate that

this conflict has become. But even if it is isolated, Juba is not on the point of collapse. To a visitor, it is not even obvious that it is under siege. The streets are caim. There are no fortifications or heavy artillery ringing the town, and there are no distant sounds of warfare to be heard.

Though prices are high, the markets seem well stocked with food, shoes, clothes, tools and handicrafts. And although the town is a government stronghold, Islamic laws are not enforced.

For 15 years, southern rebel groups have been fighting successive Arab-dominated governments for more autonomy, racial equality and religious freedom. More than 1 million people are believed to have died in fighting or in famines caused by the conflict.

Since last March, the main rebel faction, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, has stepped up its offensives in the south with some help from Uganda, Eritrea and Ethiopia, which dislike the Khartourn government because it supports rebel insurgencies in their own countries.

In late January, the rebels attacked and briefly held three large towns in the southwest before being beaten back. northern opposition leaders have opened a second front in the east, raiding Sudan from bases in Eritrea.

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on a peace agreement it reached with the leaders of five small rebel factions in leaders of five small rebel factions in April of last year. The agreement exempts the southern states from Islamic law and calls for a referendum on independence within four years. But Colonel Garang has rejected the accord, saying his fighters want a united Sudan with a secular state. Peace talks between the government and Colonel Garang are supposed to resume in April.

In Khartoum, where high school students are being inducted into the army as soon as they pick up their diplomas.

ducted into the army as soon as they pick up their diplomas, more and more young men are dodging the draft. Recruiters have begun arresting young men of draft age on buses and at traffic roadblocks, press-ganging them into military service without telling their families, anti-war advocates say.

Some families have sent their teenage sons abroad on tourist visas. Others are keeping their sons from graduating to avoid the draft. In December dozens of mothers were arrested after they protested against the war in the capital.

"When we go to the market, everyone is talking about how 'I'm not sending my son anymore to final exams," one of the organizers of the protest, Fawzia Fadil, said. "This regime is killing our children."

But even as the anti-war sentiment here gathers momentum, conservatives in the north have tried to turn the conflict into a orthern opposition leaders have opened a second front in the east, raiding Sudan from bases in Eritrea.

Conservatives in the found have filed to thin the controls the government has portrayed the most recent rebel offensives as the stands at about 650,000. UN officials say that in the last year, at least 36,000 refugees from the fighting have arrived here.



Rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, training in the Nuba Mountains, have kept the major cities of the south isolated, but they have been unable to deal a decisive military blow.

allies in the region: Uganda, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Some conservative Muslims have responded to the government's call for what hard-liners in the governing party call a jihad, or holy war, against foreign invaders. Last year, for instance, 17 young volunteers mounted suicide missions to stop rebel tanks and armored personnel carriers from reaching Juba. The soldiers strapped bombs to their bodies, climbed onto the tanks 40 kilometers (25 miles) outside town and detonated the charges.

OR JUBA in the last year, the growing war has meant isolation, high prices and more hunger. Every day, four Boeing 707s arrive from Khartoum, carrying flour, onions, sugar and fuel, at a cost of nearly \$15,000 a flight. Every few days a barge full of goods arrives from Khartourn. Though the markets are still full of goods, the prices are out of the reach of many people, merchants and

At the same time, the population of the town has swollen as tens of thousands of frightened people have flooded into Juba from rebel-held towns farther south in the last five years. It now stands at about 650,000. UN officials say that in the last year,

"It is very difficult here, you know," said Skopas Godi Abina, a traditional chief who represents thousands of displaced Kuku tribesmen in Juba. "One is hungry, and the hunger brings weakness and disease, and there is the lack of medicine. We lost many people, especially old people and young children."

Mattle Look

Reporters who visited Juba recently were accompanied everywhere by military officers, and many people declined to talk about the rebels or their popular support with military officers present. One man said some Christians in the city were sympathetic to Colonel Garang's forces. The south has been neglected for years by northern governments, he said. The town has only a few paved roads, one faded college and few government buildings. Most people live in traditional mud houses with thatched roofs.

"Definitely they support the rebels, but quietly, not openly," he said. In private, several Sudanese military officers acknowledged that the war cannot be won as long as the rebels receive support from neighboring countries.

On the other side, rebel officials acknowledge that they have

no hope of taking over a country half the size of the United States. Their aim, they say, is to wear the National Islamic Front's government down, sapping its resources until it falls.

TRAVEL UPDATE

3 Pyramids Opened to Public Swissair Heads to East Europe

CAIRO (AFP) — Three royal pyramids bebuilder of Egypt's largest pyramid, were opened to the public for the first time Tuesday, together with

The pyramids are dedicated to Queen Hetepheres, mother of Cheops, and his wives, Queen Yerevan, and the Georgian capital, Tbilisi. Merit-it-Is and Queen Henutsen, antiquities officials said during a ceremony that also included the reopening of the Mykerinos pyramid after one year for March 13 to protest a decision to dismiss three of restoration work.

The Queens pyramids, located southeast of Cairo, are less than 10 meters (33 feet) tall and consist of a funerary chamber with bare walls that can be reached from a steep ramp. They are located on the east side of Cheops. The tombs of nine to Seoul on Tuesday became the first commercial nobles and a son of Mykerinos, builder of the South Korean plane to cross North Korean consmallest pyramid among the famous Giza trio, were also opened for the first time.

In the newly restored Mykerinos pyramid, a ventilation system was installed to provide visitors

ZURICH (AFX) - Swissair will begin operating longing to the mother and two wives of Cheops, builder of Egypt's largest pyramid, were opened to the public for the first time Tuesday, together with 10 Old Kingdom tombs. well as twice-weekly flights to the Armenian capital,

> Italian railroad unions called a one-day strike state railroad workers involved in two separate crashes in 1987. The largest of the unions also called for a strike March 11.

A Korean Air cargo jet flying from New York trolled airspace since the Korean War. North Korean airspace is to open to international flights starting April 23. In the meantime, Pyongyang has begun allowing international flights to use its air-space on a trial basis. (Reuters)

Poland Takes Over Cloister Near Auschwitz

The Associated Press

WARSAW — Carmelite nuns have turned over a former cloister opposite the Auschwitz death camp to the state, clearing the way for removal of a wooden cross that was the focus of

But two government spokesmen said they were seeking an agreement with Jewish groups to retain the 16-foot cross commemorating a 1979 papal Mass at

the site An Interior Ministry official. Boguslaw Skreta, said he hoped a com-

promise could be reached. Krzysziof Sliwinski, a government liaison to the Jewish Diaspora, suggested that instead of removing the cross, it should be cut down to a smaller

size and be moved to a less prominent location at the site. The spokesman for the Catholic Church in Poland, Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, said the suggestions were un-authorized and did not conform with

agreements worked out with the Vatican and local church authorities to remove the cross.

Jews have long been upset about the placement of Catholic symbols at or near Auschwitz, and protested the papal cross located about 80 feet (25 meters) from the former Nazi death camp.

The government announced two weeks ago that the cross would be removed before it took ownership of the Ministry planned to build a monument to executed prisoners where the cross now stands.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, in the southern city of Oswiecim, was built in 1940. By 1945, some 1.5 million people. mostly Jews, died there in gas chambers or from hunger, disease and cold.

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PROMOTIONS & MARKETING BOARD

Unesco Seeks To Preserve Lebanese Port

Agence France-Presse TYRE, Lebanon - Un-

sco began an international campaign Tuesday to help safeguard Lebanon's southem port city of Tyre, one of the world's most ancient urban metropolises, dating from 3,000 B.C

"Tyre is in danger," said Director-General Federico Mayor Zaragoza. "It is threatened by the erosion of time, a modernization little concerned with historical remains and pollution that threaten to destroy this cross-road of cultures and civili-

Mr. Mayor called on the international community to help preserve Tyre by donat-ing to a special fund for the preservation of the city's her-

Unesco - the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization aims to draw up plans to preserve the city's ruins, formulate construction codes, gather funds and carry out

Tyre, home to an important Roman amphitheater and damaged repeatedly by Israeli invasions, was designated by Unesco as a cultural and architectural landmark in 1984,

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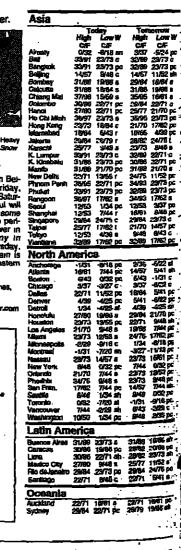
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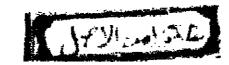
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THE AMERICAS



Battle Looms on Tax Code 2001, calling it an irresponsible gimmick that could endanger American prosperity. developing issue that the Republican leadfor businesses and individuals that the economy could come to a halt. the current tax law be scrapped by Dec. 31, 2001, allowing three years for a national debate on what kind of new system to adopt. should take its place but calls for Congress to

to deal a decisity milion. White House officials and is supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House version has 137 sponsors and the support of deal a decisity milion. White House officials and is supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House officials and is supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House officials and is supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House officials are also that the supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House officials are also that the supported by Irent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House officials are also that the support of Mississippi, the majority leader. The House version has 137 sponsors and the support of Mississippi.

difficult here, you know, said Stope could pass this year, though its enances of its order who represents thousanding between in Judy. One is hungly as weakness and disease, and there will more missed to yet the measure if it ever reached weakners and disease, and there is thele : lost many people, especially old page

y military officers, and many people the scheme to eliminate our tax naws with the received or their popular support with the system to replace them," Mr. Clinton said.

Without knowing what the tax code would be unable to d for years by northern government, k. Only a few paved roads, one faded college would face considerable uncertainty in ouy-ent outlaints. Most people live in traff, and other economic decisions.

they support the tebels, but qued Said. In private several Sudanese mb mission for the new capture of what he the orthographet unitypated contine sale, remere the als actions ledge that the any over a country half the size of thele. ment the case of the wear the National life statement decision supporting the resources until the

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rights were violated by some legislative action are still free to sue the city or government-al entity. The ruling Tuesday, sue the individual offi-

Clinton Opposing Republican Attempt at Abolition fiscal stability could be put at risk. "Scrapping the home mortgage deduction, scrapping WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton the other middle-class tax cuts without has taken aim at a Republican proposal to presenting a clear alternative is sumply reckless for the economy, reckless for busines; es, abolish the federal tax code by the end of reckless for families' budgets," Mr. Chilon

"And I will not permit it, if I can stop it, but Setting up a political clash over a fastit shouldn't pass in the first place.

Clearly concerned about being portrayed ership in Congress has put high on its agenda by Republicans as a defender of the current this year, Mr. Clinton said Monday that the tax system, with all its complexities and abusproposal would create so much uncertainty es. Mr. Clinton repeatedly said that he was not opposed to an overhaul of the tax code.

But he left no doubt that neither of the The proposal, which Congress could vote leading Republican ideas --- a single-rate flat on in the next few months, would require that tax and a national sales tax — would meet his requirement that the tax burden not be shifted from the wealthy onto middle, and low-income people.

And while he said the administration would continue to look for ways to simplify the income tax system and make it more fair, he offered no sweeping overhaul proposals of his The Senate version of the bill has 25 Re- own.

Senator Tim Hitchinson, Republican of Arkansas and a sponsor of the Senate bill, said, "I will leave it to the president to defend to deal a decisive military blag. Thouse officials said they took semilitary blag. Thouse officials said they took semilitary blag. Thouse officials said they took semilitary blag. Thouse of thouse its chances of the decisive military blag. Thouse thouse its chances of the decisive military blag. Thouse thouse its chances of the decisive military blag. today's cumbersome tax code, but I will continue to call for a fairer, simpler tax system

"I trust the American people will be able to decide which is more 'irresponsible' - our current incomprehensible tax code or a better system rebuilt from the ground up."

While many Republicans believe that creating a new tax code is both good economic who visited Jura recently were account proposed what, to me, is an irresponsible able to agree among themselves on which of the main alternatives to support. Under the guise of reform, they have policy and good politics, they have been unscheme to eliminate our tax laws without any the main alternatives to support.

at. One man said some Christians in the Without knowing what the tax code would become an issue in this year a manufacture of the said companies would be unable to be, he said, companies would be unable to become difficult for Republicans to defend. ene to Ceione' Gerang's forces. The said, companies would be unable to tions, beneving man any new make investment decisions and families become difficult for Republicans to defend, once they have to address such specific once they have to address such specific changes as the elimination of the deductions for home mortgage interest and charitable contributions, as most versions of the flat tax and job creation and the nation's newfound and the national sales tax would require.



TREASURE SEEKERS — Beachcombers gathering on the shore in Santa Cruz, California, where storms in recent weeks have left tons of debris on the beach, which borders an amusement park.

Away From Politics

• A woman was sentenced to more than 12 years in prison because her three Rotweller dogs manled an 11-year-old boy to death in Junction City, Kansas, Sabine Davidson was convicted in January of unintentional second-degree murder and child endangement in the April 24, 1997, death of Christopher Wilson, Christopher was waiting for a school bus with his brother when he was attacked by the dogs owned by Mrs. Davidson and her husmand.

American children suffered 58,400 injuries from trampolines in 1995. nearly twice as many as six years before, according to a report in Pediatrics magazine. Ninery-three percent of the injuries occurred at home, the study

• A 50-year-old Russian immigrant jumped to his death from a ninth-floor window at the Federal Office Building in New York, after walking into the offices of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and asking to be deported because he had lost his job. The man's name has not been released, pending notification of relatives. NYT

POLITICAL NOTES

Transportation Bill Gains

WASHINGTON - Taking advantage of a booming economy and a balanced budget. Senate negotiators have reached an agreement on the -up its bill. broad outlines of a six-year, \$173 billion transportation bill that would significantly increase spending on roads and bridges in every state.

Although details of the agreement must still be worked out, the legislation is expected to call for shifting a larger portion of federal highway funds to southern states, which have long complained that they do not receive their rightful share of revenues from a federal gasoline tax that finances transportation projects.

Senator Trent Lott, the majority leader, said he gress under which states will be asked to lower to expected the Senate to pass the bill in the next week or two. The House, which is considering a version of the measure that spends significantly more than the Senate agreement, has not yet taken way funds. White House officials said.

Drunk Drivers Under Fire

WASHINGTON - Citing the case of a 9-yearold girl who was killed by a drinking driver while she waited for a school bus, President Bill Clinton was adding his voice Tuesday to those urging states to get tougher with anyone who drinks and drives. loved comedians. When I was a kid, I did a The president will support a proposal in Con- comedy routine in high school."

.08 percent from .10 the blood-alcohol level at which a driver is declared legally drunk. If the states balk, they risk losing certain federal high-

Quote/Unquote

Dick Gephardt, the House minority leader, a possible challenger for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2000, on laughter and polities: "People need to get to know who you really are. I like to have fun. I love to laugh. I've always

N.J. Court Says Scouts Violated Anti-Bias Law

In the vacuum, he said, growth could stall,

By Richard W. Stevenson

New York Times Service

The proposal would not specify what

decide on a new tax code by the middle of

publicans sponsors and is supported by Trent

New York Times Service

HACKENSACK, New Jersey - Asserting that the Boy Scouts of America are essentially a public accommodation, like a hotel or a restaurant, a New Jersey appeals court has ruled that the organization violated the state's anti-discrimination law by ousting a gay Eagle

A divided three-judge court ruled that because the Scouts openly recruited members from among millions of boys nationwide and because its troops met in public places like churches and firehouses, it was covered by the discrimination law and thus could not exclude anyone because of his sexual orientation.

The lawyer for the Boys Scouts' national headquarters, George Davidson, of New York City, said the organization would appeal the ruling to the New Jersey

The ruling Monday was one of a number of recent cases around the country challenging a 1978 Scouts' policy that says that declared homosexuals cannot be members or

High Court Ruling Protects Legislators

The Associated Press WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday for the first time that local subject of a lawsuit. legislators, like city council members, can never be sued for actions that are part of

'legitimate legislative activ-Ruling unanimously in a case from Fall River, Masthe nation's highest court gave local legislators the same "absolute immunity" from civil rights lawsuits enjoyed by their fed-

eral, state and regional coun-Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the court that absolute immunity for local legislators "finds support not only in history but also in

The ruling does not shield city officials from lawsuits stemming from the many administrative matters they carry out, such as hiring and firing employees or dealing with the public. But it does shield them for their legislative functions, such as introducing or enacting an or-

People who believe their owever, thwarts their efforts

Had this decision gone the other way, no city hall in safe," said Bruce Assad, one new spending this year.

of the winning lawyers. "Every elected official's vote would have been the potential

The decision threw out a \$231,000 damage award against two former Falls River officials for eliminating a city worker's job after she complained that another worker used racial slurs.

Surplus Is Seen At \$8 Billion

WASHINGTON - The Congressional Budget Office has projected an \$8 billion surplus for this year, a congressional aide said Tuesday. It would be the first time the United States had no deficit

Even though private econ-omists have been predicting a surplus for the 1998 fiscal year for months, it was the first official projection by the by the office, the budget analyst of Congress. The 1998 fiscal year ends Sept. 30.

since 1969.

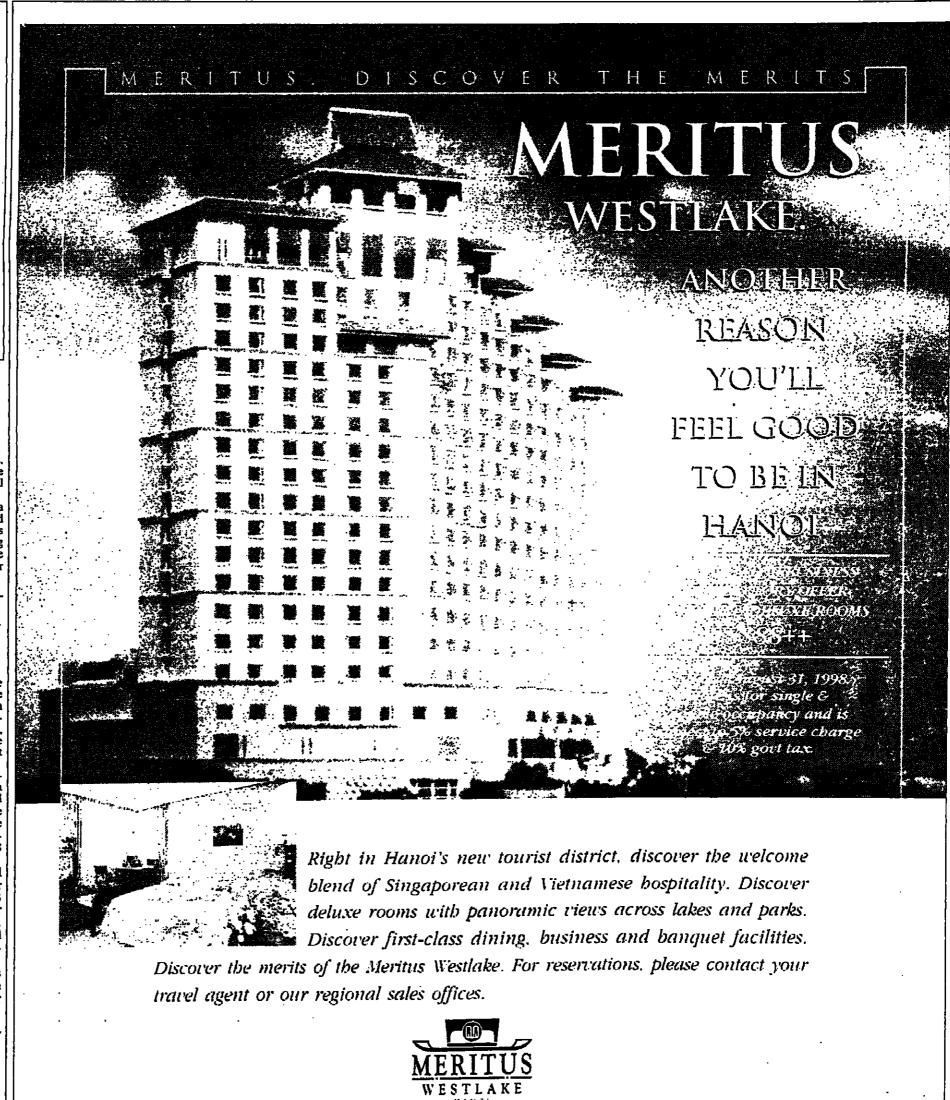
The office also predicted surpluses of \$9 billion for 1999, \$1 billion for 2000, \$13 billion for 2001, \$67 billion for 2002 and \$53 billion for 2003. The numbers were provided by an aide who spoke on con-

dition of anonymity. The projections come as lawmakers are pressing to use America would have been surpluses to pay for tax cuts or



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Defying Foes In Parliament, Kim Appoints Prime Minister

By Don Kirk International Herold Tribus

SEOUL - President Kim Dae Jung defied the political opposition Tuesday, naming a conservative coalition partner acting prime minister.

The appointment, announced the day after the national assembly dissolved in a fist-swinging melee and failed to confirm Kim Jong Pil as prime minister, set the stage for a protracted struggle between the executive and legislative branches of a government mired in eco-

Mr. Kim appealed to the opposition-Grand National Party to support Kim as swiftly against the nation's conglom-principles advanced by the IMF and long Pil "for one year in the interests of erates, known as chaebol, as Kim Dae epitomized the habit of Korean compa-Soon, leader of the opposition party, attacked the appointment as "invalid and illegal, null and void" and vowed to

combat it politically and legally. Kim Dae Jung, elected president with 40 percent of the votes in December after allying with Kim Jong Pil, 72, a former prime minister and founder of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, formed a "coalition" cabinet that includes a dozen members of his own and Kim Jong Pil's parties.

that of Lee Kyu Sung, 59, a professor who served as finance minister under who served as former general who was "The president stated that he will "The president stated by the the same post. Mr. Lee was appointed after Kim Jong Pil's top economic adviser, Kim Yong Hwan, a key figure behind Kim Jong Pil in the national assembly, turned down the job and recommended him instead.

Mr. Lee promised "to be timely in coming up with policies needed to push"

Mr. Lee was appointed in "IMF," he added. "However, the 'plus' is to find ways to stabilize or or not he proceeds with it, some analysts say, it is proving a useful bargaining an economic culture weakened by continuous commendation for further payments.

IMF, "he added. "However, the 'plus' is to find ways to stabilize the rupid at a fair level."

A term first used by the president in a speech Sunday, "IMF-plus" is among other things an assertion that Jakarta will not slavishly follow the dictates of outcoming up with policies needed to push jailed for corruption, and now assumes the same post. Mr. Lee was appointed after Kim Jong Pil's top economic adviser, Kim Yong Hwan, a key figure behind Kim Jong Pil in the national assembly, turned down the job and re-

commended him instead. coming up with policies needed to push restructuring" of the economy as demanded by the International Monetary

But Mr. Lee, as Mr. Roh's finance minister from December 1988 to March said he was continuing to consider a days to demand government action on President Suharto to a seventh five-year 1990, is remembered for having forced quick-fix plan to raise the value of the the financial crisis, student representathe Bank of Korea to loan the equivalent in Korean currency of more than \$3 billion to Korean trust companies, which they in turn loaned to major listed companies then confronted with the possibility noted that he had not "come here as an eight days to force the Indonesian govof bankruptcy. The rationale was that the companies had to have the money to bolster the Korean stock exchange and keep the economy from deteriorating.



President Kim Dae Jung, center, toasting his newly appointed cabinet members at a dinner in Seoul on Tuesday. At left is Finance Minister Lee Kyu Sung; at right is National Unification Minister Kang In Duk.

the nation and the people." But Cho Jung has promised in recent weeks. He mies of borrowing increasingly huge remarked that the government would 'make every effort to minimize the costs needed to reform the chaebol.' loans that they are now unable to repay without emergency aid. "Lee's personality is quite contrary to Kim Dae Jung's Critics point out that Mr. Lee's approach directly counters the free-market professor at Korea University.

KOREA: Battered Asian Firms Scale Back Operations in U.S.

Continued from Page 1

should follow suit." Mr. Kim said the situation was so dire that he expected the chamber to forgo the collection of dues

from its 700 members this year. The conundrum is that with their own their overseas sales more than ever. At the same time, the sharp weakening of their currencies has made their products more competitive overseas, although most and in January were nearly triple the level companies have been unable or chose not of a year earlier, because of the devalu-

But the devaluation of currencies also companies to pay the expenses of their operations in the United States. Their American subsidiaries are having tronble raising cash because American banks are reluctant to lend to them and neither the parent companies nor Asian banks have the money.

ried that money-losing overseas business operations will drain it of scarce foreign reserves, is asking to see financial statements of overseas subsidiaries and pressing for closing those that are not con-

stently profitable, executives said.
"They really need these offices running on full cylinder right now, and it's very painful to do so," said Stewart Kim, managing partner of Pacific Gem-ini Partners, a Los Angeles investment-

The American operations, for instance, Asian nations combined. U.S. sales were up 65 percent last year to make dramatic cuts in their U.S. prices. ation of the won and because new dealers have opened. But dealers are having dif-

Hyundai Motor America has not lowered car prices because it does not But it is offering hefty rebates on some models. The company has had two rounds of layoffs since December, one South Korea's Finance Ministry, wor- of them at its financing subsidiary, which has had trouble raising funds and

ended its leasing program.

The cutbacks and other changes are not limited to South Korean companies. Indonesian, Thai and other Southeast Asian The biggest impact, however, could

management firm that is half-owned by sangyong Investment & Securities Co. ownership of U.S. businesses, factories of South Korea.

have been a lifeline for Kia Motors Corp., Japan's financial problems are not as a South Korean automaker that filed for sudden or as acute as those of South bankruptcy last year. The American sub- Korea, Thailand and Indonesia, so the economies ailing. Asian companies need sidiary was asked to accept shipments of reaction of Japanese companies has been extra cars, said Greg Warner, executive more gradual. Japanese investors, who vice president of Kia Motors America. purchased trophy hotels, office buildings and golf courses in the late 1980s, have been selling \$3 billion to \$5 billion of U.S. real estate annually in the last few years, according to Jack Rodman, head of Pacific Rim activities for E&Y Kenneth makes it more expensive for Asian ficulty getting financing, Mr. Warner Leventhal Real Estate Group, which tracks Japanese properly investment in

the United States. Still, some analysts think the sell-off want to cheapen the image of its cars. of Japanese-owned businesses and real estate will accelerate because Japan's government is getting more serious about cleansing bad debts from the banking system and because U.S. real estate

prices have been rising.
Sumitomo Bank Ltd. announced it was looking to sell Sumitomo Bank of California. The Inter-Continental Hotel chain, which includes U.S. properties like San companies are affected but have a smaller presence in the United States. Hong Kong sold by Saison Group to Bass PLC of and Taiwan companies, many of which are big investors in the United States, have not been hit as hard by the Asian crisis.

The hit are the best are a smaller presence in the United States, have a smaller presence in the United States, have pany, is said to be selling the Sheraton Grande Torrey Pines in San Diego and a big of the presence in the United States, have pany, is said to be selling the Sheraton Grande Torrey Pines in San Diego and a big of the presence in the United States, have pany in the presence in the United States, have pany in the United States, have pany in the properties and the properties are affected but have a smaller presence in the United States. Hong Kong sold by Saison Group to Bass PLC of Britain. Taisei Corp., a construction companies are affected but have a smaller presence in the United States, hong Kong sold by Saison Group to Bass PLC of Britain. Taisei Corp., a construction companies, in the United States, have pany it is said to be selling the Sheraton Grande Torrey Pines in San Diego and a big of the Asian crisis.

big office building in Chicago.

According to Commerce Department figures for 1995, the latest available, there were 109 nonbank affiliates of South Korean companies operating in the United States, with sales of \$23.8 billion and 22,900 employees.

Samsung Group, one of South Korea's largest companies, closed its American headquarters in Ridgefield, New Jersey, and dispersed its 30 employees to other subsidiaries. Asiana Airlines Inc., South Korea's second-largest carrier, stopped flying to Honolulu in January and closed its office there. SK Group, the fifth-largest conglomerate, will lay off a quarter of its 200 employees in the New York area.

The sale of Symbios has heightened speculation that South Korean companies might sell interests in such well-known companies as AST Research Inc., Zenith Electronics Corp. and Maxtor Corp.

Besides the need to raise cash, other factors could be motivating Asian owners to sell American real estate. Prices in Asia have dropped so far and American prices have risen so high that it might be time to take profits.

But Richard Alter, the managing director of Financial Capital Investment Co. in Los Angeles, which pools money from investors in Hong Kong, Taiwan properties, said his clients were continuing to invest in the United States because it offers stability. "What all this ernment to consider their demands, a students association representative said.

Their first demand, she said, was for day, she added.

The planed further demonstrations Wednes- Asia, he said, "which is why our investors are coming here."

INDONESIA: 'No Quick Fixes,' Mondale Tells Suharto in Urging Painful IMF Reforms

Continued from Page 1

The most controversial choice may be convincing signs that the rupiah will

side agencies.

risen to the surface as international pres-Fund in return for piecing together a \$60 sure grows on Indonesia to take austerity billion package for rescuing Korea from the brink of bankruptcy in December. sure grows on Indonesia to take austerity measures that are already causing inflation, food shortages and unemployment. on, food shortages and unemployment. universities on Java have been carrying sembly meeting, which began Sunday cooking oil.

In his speech Sunday, Mr. Suharto out hunger strikes for as long as eight and runs through March 11, to elect The studential between continuous and runs through March 11, to elect the studential between continuous and runs through March 11, to elect the studential between continuous and runs through March 11, to elect the studential between continuous and runs through March 11, to elect the studential between continuous and runs through March 11 and runs throu tion, food shortages and unemployment.

> rupiah artificially by creating an inde- tives said Tuesday. pendent monetary board. Eight university students of Gajah Mr. Mondale said he had discussed Mada University in Yogyakarta in centhat plan with Mr. Suharto, although he trail Java have been on a hunger strike for

behalf of the IMF." But he said: "The way to deal with the resentative of the Students' Executive severe currency problems faced by In- Association of the university said. Mr. Lee hinted that he might not move donesia is to deal with the underlying

economic specialist or a negotiator on

problems. There are no quick fixes that lifeline in economic assistance, an Insupport payment of new funds from the provide an alternative. If the IMF produces a conomist said, "He doesn't IMF rescue package unless Jakarta made

storing confidence."

Eight university students of Gajah

which include cutting food prices, a rep-

The government has banned any

gram is implemented, this will help in want Indonesia being told what to do."

Mr. Mondale is the second high-level While backing away from plans for an immediate peg for the rupiah, Mr. Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Suharto has kept the option open. Wheth-

The issue of national sovereignty has Demanding Jakarta Act, Java Students Maintain Hunger Strike

progress on reforms, Renters reported.

He said the IMF would be seeking ev-

idence that Indonesia was meeting promises on budget, structural, mon-

Reuters street demonstrations one week before the Indonesian government to reduce the IAKARTA — Indonesian students at and after the People's Consultative Aspice of essential goods, such as rice and The students called for political reform on all levels of the Indonesian government, and an investigation into assets of government officials, as well as Students have held demonstrations at

universities in Jakarta, Bandung, a two-term limit on the presidency. Yokyakarta and Surabaya in the past They also asked the government They also asked the government to week, but have been reluctant to leave respect human rights and rejected the and other countries to purchase U.S. their campuses when confronted by riot consultative assembly meeting to elect emment to take note of their demands, police and troops at the university gates. the president, the student representative

The students want to force the gov- said

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THE DREAM PALACE OF THE ARABS

By Fouad Ajami. 344 pages. \$26. Pantheon.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

FOUAD AJAMI, who teaches Middle Eastern Studies at Johns Hopkins University, has for years dis-tinguished himself for his scholarship and commentary on the Arab world.

His new book, "The Dream Palace of the Arabs," focuses on the Arab writers and intellectuals of the last two generations — Ajami's own and the one preceding his - who strove to forge an Arab awakening through po-etry and fiction. The writers themselves vary enormously, but all of them in one way or another have, like the statesmen, politicians and tyrants they observed, mirrored the Arab experience itself.

Ajami, borrowing from T.E. Lawrence, uses the phrase "dream palace" as a metaphor for that experience. He identifies it as the "intellectual edifice of secular nationalism and modernity" by which the literary figures he studies in this volume sought to bring about a new, modern consciousness.

But as a phrase, the notion of "dream palace" suggests other things as well. There is the dream palace of pan-Arabic unity, the dream palace of the reconquest of Israel, the dream palace of Islamic fundamentalism, all of which and tyrants alike.

in his subject. His writing is day of the Israeli invasion of smooth, evocative, richly ca- Lebanon, June 6, 1982. Hawi,

said, also has a tendency to clearly and strongly identifies, cities and our streets, in every ramble, to use certain phrases embodied the failed effort of nook and cranny." abstract, slightly mannered,

devoid of specific meaning. In reading his new book, one has the feeling that he holds back some of his own views, hesitating to provide a thorough analysis or judgment on the figures at the center of his narrative. The cognoscenti of the Arab diaspora and experts in the field of Arabic culture will understand the semiotics here. For other readers, however, it may seem that Ajami's mellifluous, elegiac prose sug-gests but does not pin down in

or political choices. Still, Ajami has written an important and illuminating book, one that furnishes a universe of information about the inner world of Arab self-reflection and about the men and women who grappled with the weight of a conservative tradition, trying to shed its various veils. Or as one of Ajami's writers, a Muslim woman from Beirut named Nazira Zayo al Din, put it in 1928, "a veil of cloth, a veil of ignorance, a veil of hypocrisy

and a veil of stagnation. One derives from Ajami's work a deeper appreciation for the vision of recent history sustained by these intellectuals as well as for their tragedy. "Arab men and women of this century escaped into the word," Ajami writes, "and the word failed them."

The overriding theme here is disillusionment. Ajami dehave occupied the minds of votes an 84-page chapter to writers and politicians, poets Khalil Hawi, the influential Lebanese poet who committed Ajami is deeply schooled suicide in Beirut on the very denced. Ajami, it must be a man with whom Ajami

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> Herald Eribung THE WORLD'S DALLY NAWSPAPER

- a "new dispensation" is the Arabic man of letters to did nothing more than recon-struct his life, "The Dream

make a valuable contribution. Hawi, a Greek Orthodox man from a poor mountain village in Lebanon was "a the pen name Adonis. great, restless talent" who a stonemason before gaining celebrity for his poems, the most famous of which, "The Bridge," published in 1957, is a spare, melancholy, baunting concrete terms his own moral work. But the years left him

> factions that pushed Lebanon to civil war and invasion. "He could not see his country as a laboratory for the wars of others or sanction a war on its land as a battle for some hazy Arab future." Ajami writes. "His wrath took in all the armed camps. "Tragedy," he said, "has befallen us; it is

everywhere among us, in our

alienated from the political

one — that come across as create the ground for an Arab themes in this book and inrevival. He was an extremely troduces his readers to a large interesting figure, and if Ajami cast of Middle Eastern fig-Palace of the Arabs" would

ures, from Malcolm Kerr, the University of Beirut, assassinated in 1984, to Ali Ahmad Said, the exiled Syrian poet and essayist who wrote under Like Hawi, Adonis, who grappled with the various cur-rents of thought that swept and exile," passed from the

Ajami explores numerous

through the Arab world dur-ing his lifetime. He worked as 1950s, when Gamel Abdel guarded optimism of the Nasser of Egypt seemed tot 6: provide new hope for vigorous nationalist leadership, to bitter disillusionment as Arab society plunged into "a new world of cruelty, waste, and ? confusion.

Along the way, Ajami provides close, intelligent readings of political events. including what he calls the Palestinian-Shia war in Lebanon, the Israeli invasion of that country, the Nasserite revolution in Egypt, the rise Islamic fundamentalism and the Gulf War.

New York Times Service

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1 PARADISE by Ton Monison
3 COLD MOUNTAIN, by RIMES CAMERON'S TITANIC by Ed W. Marsh WHO
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3 COLD. MOUNTAIN, by
Charles Finzer.
4 BLACK AND BLUE, by
Anna Quindlen.
5 THE CAT WHO SANG
FOR THE BIRDS; by
Lilian Jackson Braun.
6 FEAR NOTHING, by
Dean Koonts.
7 BIRTHDAY LETTERS. by
Tel Hawles. Neale Dunald Walsch
II CITIZEN SOLDIERS by
Stephen E. Ambrose
12 THE LONG HARD
ROAD OUT OF HELL Ted Hughes

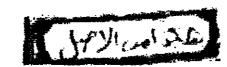
8 MEMORS OF A
GEISHA, by Arthur
Golden.

9 A CERTAIN JUSTICE. Neil Strenss
13 DEATH OF A PRINCESS.
by Thomas Sencion and Score
MacLeyd
14 JACKIE AFTER JACK. by P.D. Jemes 16 THE WINNER, by David

Baltacci
II NUMBERED ACCOUNT.
by Christopher Reich
12 THE INVESTIGATORS.
by W.E.B. Griffin
13 THE GOD OF SMALL
THINGS, by Amediani
Row 14 NIGHT TRAIN, by Martin Arnis 15 CUBA LIBRE, by Elmore

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According to Commerce De According to Commerce De L figures for 1995, the lates a there were 109 nonbank mic South Korean companies one the United States, with sals about the United States, with sale about the United State om the

Samsung Group, one of Sont a made largest companies, closed it is headquarters in Ridgefield Kal me evand dispersed its 30 employers subsidiaries. Asiana Airline k recting . กางถ-Korea's second-largest came : flying to Honolulu in January at B. and opmate is office there. SK Group, the ith. recomconglomerate, will lay off a que

200 employees in the New York The sale of Symbios has bespeculation that South Koreanor rugh; sell interests in such sele companies as AST Research in Electronics Corp and Mayor

Besides the need to raise as lactors could be motivating Age ace the ers to sell American real estate l Asia have dropped so far and it frices have risen so high that in MET LE and to take profits

But Richard Alter, the mane sector of Financial Capital line Co in Los Angeles, which pooks from investors in Hong Rong L RECORD IN and the and other countries to purchao elect properties, said his clients were tinuing to invest in the Umed? because it offers stability. "Wars artists does is make more instala Asia, he said. "which is whot vestors are coming here."

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Parliament Majority Eludes Hindu Nationalists Closest Indian Election Yet Now Moves Into Maneuvering to Form a Ruling Coalition

By John F. Burns New York Times Service

NEW DELHI -- With election results nearly complete, India found itself Tuesday facing a tense contest for power between Hindu nationalists and a putative alignment between the Coneress (I) Party and the United Front, two groups that trailed the nationalists in the

distribution of parliamentary seats. The election brought the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party closer to an outright election victory than at any time since the first election in 1952, but left the nationalists and their election allies about 20 seats short of the 273 seats needed for a majority in the 545-

seat lower house of Parliament. If they combined their seats in a coalition, the Congress Party and the United Front would be about 10 seats short of a majority and the automatic

right to form a government.

The result appeared to be the closest in any of India's 12 elections since independence in 1947, and set the stage for what promised to be an intriguing period of political and constitutional

As political leaders absorbed the results Tuesday, the atmosphere in New Delhi, where the crucial decisions are likely to be made in the next 48 to 72

standards of Indian politics, strikingly

But Indian political commentators predicted that tensions would mount rapidly as the political endgame approaches, particularly if the Hindu nationalists are once again denied power.

Much of the hope for a harmonious outcome rested on President K.R. Narayanan, India's titular head of state, who has the responsibility of weighing the competing demands for power and entrusting the authority to form a new vernment to whichever group he deems most likely to win a parliamentary vote of confidence.

By Tuesday night, after 36 hours of counting at more than 800 centers across India, the tallying of 330 million ballots was close to being completed. Working from official returns announced by the Election Commission, Indian newspapers and television net-works projected that the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies would win 251 seats, against 166 seats for the Congress Party and its allies and 98 seats for the United Front, which is itself a coalition of 13 regional and lettist parties.

About 28 seats remained uncommitted, either because they were won by splinter purities or independent candi-dates, because counting has been post-

hours, was caim, and by the turbulent poned pending a new vote in some dis- on the basis of a much smaller Hindu tricts where violence disrupted nationalist parliamentary bloc, only to balloting or, in three parliamentary districts in Kashmir, because elections

have been scheduled later this month. Two other seats, for the total of 545, are reserved by India's constitution for representatives of Indians of mixed Indian and British descent, and they will be filled only after a new government takes office.

But for the purpose of forming a government, the key bloc will be the 21 seats won by splinter parties and independents. Much of the political calculus that unfolded Tuesday focused on this group, since a swing one way or them other among the parties would tip the power struggle. In addition, there was speculation that some smaller parties that aligned themselves during the election with the Bharatrya Janata Party and the Congress Party might switch sides, again tipping the balance.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Bharatiya Janata Party's candidate for prime minister, set the mood by responding to reporters' questions about the party's chances of taking power with what appeared to be a resigned chuckle. Mr. ajpayee, who is 71, was said by aides to be reluctant to repeat his humiliating experience after the last election in 1996, when he formed a minority government

have to resign after 13 days when more than 20 parties in Parliament united against the nationalists.

Among top leaders of the Congress Party, often accused by its opponents of arrogance after ruling the country for 44 of the 50 years since independence, the mood was similarly muted.

After a day of closed consultations. some Congress leaders even suggested that the party might do India and itself a favor if it stepped aside, clearing the way for a Hindu nationalist government and its own return to the opposition benches, where it sat for much of the last two years, when the government was formed by the United Front.

"I think we shouldn't get really worked up about sitting in opposition." said Madhavrao Scindia, a former maharajah and cabinet minister, who is one of a handful of Congress Party leaders considered to be possible prime ministers in a Congress-United Front gov-

ernment.
Mr. Scindia added: "We have to get over this constant mental block of 'We must be in government," and if we are to be in government, it has to be for some better reason than just keeping these other people out. I think that's a very negative way of thinking about it.'



Sharad Pawar, a leader of the Congress (1) Party, being garlanded by supporters in Bombay after an election victory in Maharashtra state.

BELIING - The police arrested a dissident Tuesday who had petitioned the Chinese legislature for political reforms and a crackdown on corruption, a human rights group said.

China Detains Another Dissident

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group said.

The arrest of Shen Liangqing brings to three the number of dissidents formally charged in a roundup of activists petitioning the National People's Congress, which opens its 1998 session Thursday. The congress is seen as a body trying to promote the rule of law and often draws dissiden petitions, despite police harassment and arrest.

Police in the eastern city of Hefei notified Mr. Shen's family that he had been arrested, the Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said. The authorities did not say what charges he faced or where he was being held.

Reticence Wins Cambodia Poll

PHNOM PENH — Less than six months before a crucial general election, most Cambodians are reluctant to say who they want as their leader, according to an opinion poll released Tuesday.

Nearly 60 percent of people questioned declined to answer when asked which leader they backed, apparently afraid to reveal their political allegiance, said the private French Institute for Statistics, Opinion Polls and Research on Cambodia. "This question apparently provokes the highest level of fear as reflected by the fact that a vast majority of the people interviewed do not want to express any opinion," the institute said.

Of those questioned, 16.6 percent said they supported Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, compared with 13.4 Ranariddh. Former Finance Minister Sam Rainsy, a critic of Mr. Hun Sen's government, had the backing of 7.8 percent; 59.1 percent declined to answer.

The widespread reluctance to state a preference might be good news for the opposition, since government supporters were unlikely to be afraid to state their preference, the research group said.

"Those people who express fear in the survey are more likely to vote for opposition parties than for the main ruling party represented by Mr. Hun Sen, because those who prefer Hun Sen have little reason to be afraid in expressing their choice," it said.

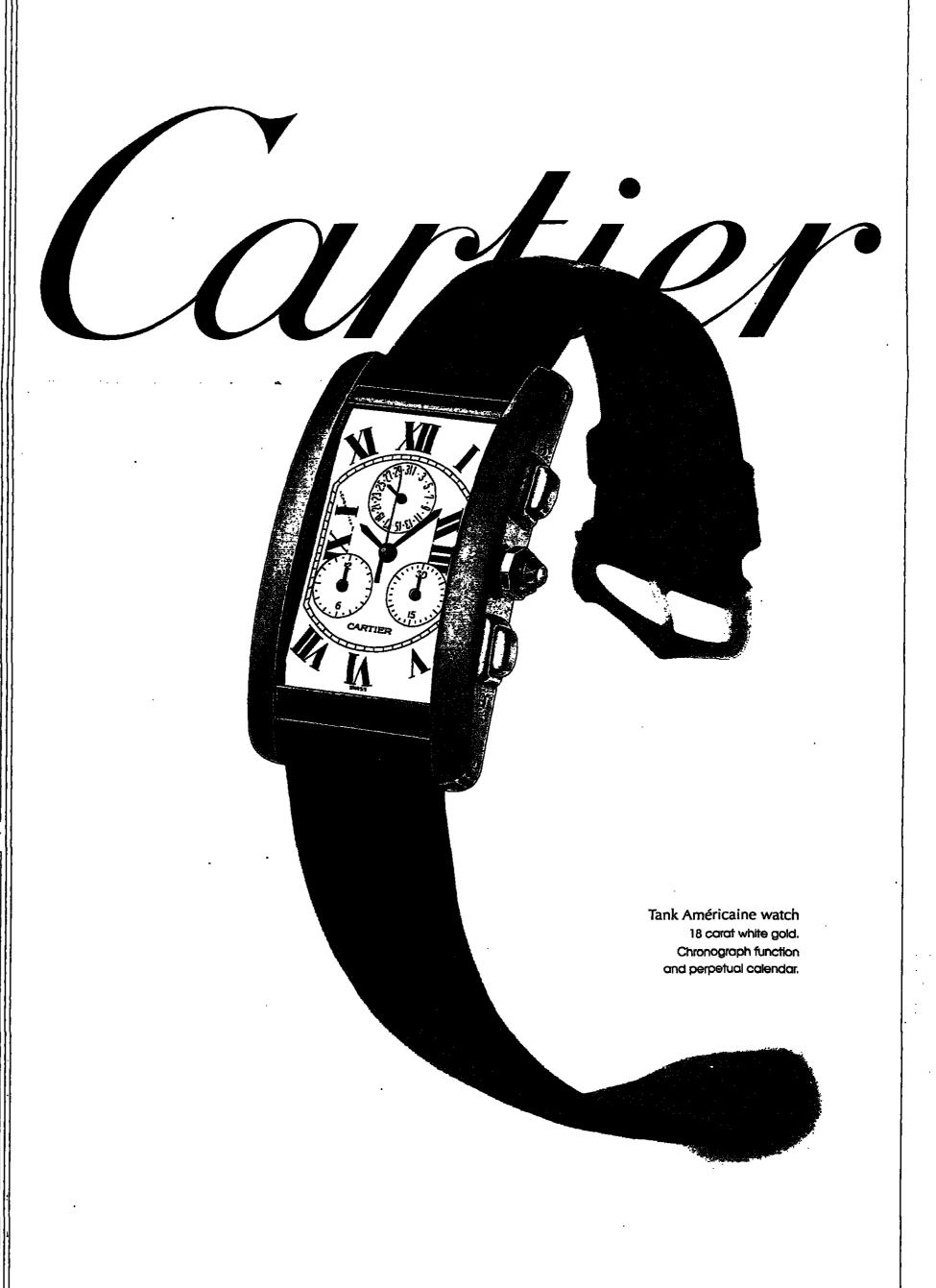
Vietnam Executes 7 for Drugs

HANOI — Vietnam carried out its second major execution of the year Tuesday before hundreds of people, in a demonstration of the state's resolve to punish abuses of power and drug-trafficking.

Vu Xuan Truong, a former police captain with the Interior Ministry, and six accomplices, including a woman, were put to death by gunfire shortly before daybreak at an execution site on the outskirts of Hanoi. In a rare concession, the authorities had bowed to a request by Mr. Truong that the executions be carried out before first light.

Prison sources and other witnesses said the seven were woken in their cells at 2:30 A.M. As they were taken to be formally notified that they were to be executed, Mr. Truong shouted to his wife, held in a neighboring prison compound: "My love. I am going there." They were offered noodle soup, coffee and cigarettes. All but one person was said to have refused.





Ethnic Albanians Mourn the Dead

30,000 Gather at Kosovo Village Where 20 Were Killed by Serb Police

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Evading police roadblocks by following dirt roads and footpaths, about 30,000 ethnic Albanians gathered in a show of defiance Tuesday to mourn and bury some of the 20 people who were killed by the Serbian police in Kosovo Province last weekend.

Tens of thousands of hands waved the "V for victory" sign as nine bodies were brought to the funeral site near the village of Cirez, 40 kilometers (25 miles) west of Pristina, the provincial capital.

A total of 21 graves were dug — an indication of the death count, which is still undetermined. But with heavily armed Serbian policemen blocking main roads to the town, some vehicles carrying bodies apparently did not make it to the funeral site.

Murat Musliju, sitting with other mourners on a hill overlooking the funeral site, spoke bitterly of the killings that followed an ambush in which two Serbian policemen were killed.

"After what happened here, there is no possibility that we can live with them together again," he said. At their burial in Pancevo, near Bel-

grade, the two Serbian policemen killed by Albanian militants were eulogized by Miroslav Mijanovic, a police commander, as "Kosovo knights who fell victims to Albanian gangs."

Ethnic Albanians, who make up more than 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people, have been pushing for inde-pendence from Serbia, which abolished the province's autonomy in 1989 before the dissolution of the old Yugoslavia, Belgrade soon introduced military rule and has cracked down on all signs of

Kosovo has simmered with violence

The violence in Cirez and the surrounding villages was the worst since a clandestine group known as the Kosovo Liberation Army surfaced in 1996 to wrest Kosovo from Serbian rule. The province's ethnic Albanian leadership had been waging a campaign of non-violence before that — ignoring Belgrade and establishing and running its own administrative and educational or-

The bloodshed over the weekend began when rebels killed the two Serbian officers in an ambush.

A Western diplomat in Pristina said witnesses of a police sweep after the Dimitris Reppas.

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ambush asserted that angry policemen dragged a family from their home in Cirez, beat them and executed them.

Veton Surroi, an analyst in Pristina, said witnesses in Cirez had also told him that the Ahmeti family was shot from close range by policemen.

The reports could not be independently confirmed, but local journalists displayed photographs of other victims who they said were victims of police brutality, indicating that people were

shot from close range.
The United States, the European Union and Russia have condemned the violence, and Foreign Secretary Robin Cook of Britain has gone to Belgrade to discuss the crisis in Kosovo.

In the harshest U.S. criticism yet of the crackdown on ethnic Albanians, Robert Gelbard, the top U.S. envoy to the Balkans, warned that President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia was risking the collapse of his government if the violence is not brought under con-

that the United States will not tolerate violence, and violence will be met by the most dire consequences imaginable," Mr. Gelbard said. "That will be the end of his government without any

Three days of violence in Kosovo have sparked fears of a broader conflict that could spill into the neighboring Balkan nations of Macedonia and Al-

The Tanjug press agency of Yugo-slavia reported that a Kosovo Serb died early Tuesday after he was wounded in an attack by ethnic Albanian rebels.

The Serbian police broke up a rally in Pristina on Monday of about 30,000 ethnic Albanians who were protesting the weekend killings of their compatriots. More than 40 people were reportedly hurt as the police waded into crowds and beat protesters.

■ Greece Appeals for Restraint

The Greek government appealed to the Yugoslav authorities for restraint on Tuesday and said it was sending Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos to Belgrade for talks, Reuters reported from Athens.

"Mr. Pangalos's visit to Belgrade on Friday will offer a very good opportunity to discuss the recent developments and seek a solution to the problem," said a government spokesman,

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Greece, which is trying to position itself as a leader in the region, again

offered to mediate in the dispute. Greece is ready to offer its good services as a Balkan country and a mem-ber of the European Union," Mr. Rep-pas said. "We believe reason will prevail; all sides will show self-restraint and wisdom to defuse the tension that threatens the region."

Greece has good relations with Albania and supports the tiny, poor Balkan state with aid and expertise, but it is also fellow Christian Orthodox Yugoslavia's closest ally in the West.

Western countries have hinted to President Milosevic that they would reinforce sanctions against him if he failed to rein in his policemen and negotiate with Albanian political leaders in Kosovo who are seeking autonomy for the province.

Careful not to take sides in the dispute, the Greek Foreign Ministry issued statement expressing concern.

It said that Athens would back any "President Milosevic is well aware initiative to open negotiations, "to find a solution that will both respect the sovereignty and unity of Yugoslavia and the rights of the Albanian majority



Mourners carrying one of those killed by the police to burial Tuesday in the village of Cirex in Kosovo Provinci

As Prostitution Booms, Russia Weighs Legalization

By Alessandra Stanley New York Times Service

SARATOV, Russia - When Lena, 20, arrived at a seedy hotel here after a call from the Amazonka escort service dispatcher, she felt fortunate. The client took one look at her waist-length, platinum-blond hair and chose her over the two other prostitutes the dispatcher had sent over for his inspection.

But her luck soured when a vice detective knocked on the hotel room door, ordered her to get dressed and put her into an unmarked police van. The nice young client turned out to be an undercover police officer.

At the station, however, it was the police who felt unlucky. The three proslitutes, their driver and pimp were processed, fined the maximum penalty of \$14 and back on the street in less time that it took the undercover police officer to register at the hotel.

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Upon their release, as the women the grimmer consequences of illegal greeted each other with jannty, knowing smiles, Lieutenant Andrei Demikhov let his frustration spill over. "The laws don't work," he said. "If women want to work as prostitutes, there is nothing we can do to stop it.'

That sense of futility is one reason the Saratov police force, the local governor and many other local officials are behind a drive to legalize prostitution here. In this industrial town on the Volga,

an ailing economy and wages that rarely top \$40 a month have driven hundreds of women - teachers, nurses, single mothers, even school girls — to work as prostitutes. And that has fomented organized crime and a staggering rise in venereal disease, AIDS and tuberculosis. Syphilis rates alone are four times higher here than they were three years ago. All these disturbing trends are cited

as reasons to legalize prostitution. Plenty of officials in other cities with similar problems, notably St. Peters-burg and Kaliningrad, are also debating

But Dmitri Ayatskov is the first regional governor in Russia to take the plunge and sponsor legislation to open government brothels.

If he has his way, licensed prostitutes would work freely in a designated area provided they are of age, pass regular health inspections, register their clients a month at a local hospital. and pay taxes.

The local legislature is set to vote on a become rich, however. law that would legalize prostitution. Even if it passes a bill. Saratov is unlikely to become another Amsterdam overnight. For one thing, such a bill would clash with federal law and would almost certainly be challenged on con-

stitutional grounds. "We have to do something," Lieutenant Demikhov said. His men, he said. recently arrested a 12-year-old girl selling herself on the street who told the police she was trying to raise enough money to buy a Barbie doll. "We cannot go on like this," he said.

Before the revolution, the czarist government allowed public brothels to operate, but they were strictly controlled. Even people who support le-galization for health reasons express doubts that government brothels could work in today's more lawless society.

"In Russia, the state is absolutely unable to protect prostitutes," said Igor Kohn, an expert on Russian sexuality. "If it happens, they will have to pay both the state and their criminal 'protectors.' "

The police say that there are more than 80 escon services operating in Saratov, a city of one million people. In January, the governor and the local legislature banned escort services from advertising in local newspapers, yet the trade continued unabated, as escort services distributed business cards and leaflets.

The Russian Orthodox Church and the Communist Party are strongly against legalization. So are many local residents. But the people who deal with

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prostitution in Saratov every day say they are desperate for some kind of change in the law.
"If it was legal, we could at least

examine the women regularly and treat them," said Olga Pron, deputy director of the regional skin and venereal diseases clinic in Saratov. Dr. Pron said she sees 15 to 20 new patients a day, and that could be a fraction of those infected.

"If the governor can really push this through and legalize prostitution," she said. "We will build him a moun-

There is less enthusiasm among pros-titutes themselves. Lena for one said that they were not sure that legalization would make their lives any easier. Mostly, they seemed worried that aspects of legalization, especially keeping a registry of clients, would inhibit business.

At the station, Lena was scared and dejected over her first arrest for prostitution, but she gave no indication that she wanted to turn back.

"If I could work as a nurse and be paid decently, then believe me, I wouldn't work as a prostitute," she said grimly. She and her co-worker Larisa, 4, who was arrested in the car as she and another prostitute were leaving the hotel, are both nurses. Until they changed careers, they were earning \$30

As prostitutes, they have not exactly

Prostitution is a growth industry in collect some tax money."

vices charge \$25 an hour. The prostitute keeps about \$10, and the rest is divided between the driver, the pimp, the escont service owner — and whomever the service pays for protection. On a really good night, which is rare, Larisa said she could clear \$80 — more than teachers or factory workers here make in a month...

Social Dem Talk Lp the

It is not a glamorous life. Even the women who work for escort services a step up from the streetwalkers who risk theft and brutality every time they duck into an alley or climb into a client's car - described in chilling detail the threat of disease, gang rape and beat-

But when asked if she thought legalization would provide her with police protection, Irina, 27, who works for Amazonka, looked puzzled.

"But we already have our own police

protection, our krisha," she said, using the Russian word for "roof," used to describe either racketeers or corrupt police officers who provide protection from prosecution — at a price.

Corruption is as potent here as the rest of Russia. And not even the most ardent reformers believe that corruption will

dry up if prostitution is legalized.
"We have to be realistic," said Aleksandr Lando, chairman of the regional human rights commission. "The most we can expect is to get some measure of control over the spread of AIDS and venereal disease, and maybe,

A Low-Tech Problem on Mir

3 Broken Wrenches Thwart a Planned Spacewalk

MOSCOW -- Russia's efforts to keep its multibillion-dollar space station going hit a new snag Tuesday when the crew was forced to cancel a

wrenches. The latest setback on the ailing station came when the crew was unable to open the hatch leading to outer space after breaking all three of their wrenches. Embarrassed officials said the spacewalk would have to wait until a new supply of the simple metal tools could be sent up to Mir on the

next supply ship.
"I am somewhat distressed about the fact that we have failed to open the hatch. One of the locks was closed so tightly that Nikolai Budarin, a physically strong man, broke three wrenches and still failed to open the last of 10 locks," Mission Control

chief Vladimir Solovyov said. The spacewalk would probably be rescheduled for April, he said.

The cosmonauts, who were to have worked on a solar panel damaged in a joined Mir in January.

collision last summer, were told to spend the rest of Tuesday resting. The latest glitch will stir concerns

that Mir is no longer safe to operate, but Russian authorities want to keep it spacewalk because they ran out of in orbit at least until a new international space station becomes operational next year. Ground Control officials said the

station was in no danger despite canceling the spacewalk. Mir. dogged since last year by problems, had appeared to be faring better after a recent series of spacewalks. The hatch, like other parts of Mir.

suffers from age and constant use long past the original plan. Mir, which marked its 12th year in orbit last month, was originally designed to last just five.

A stock of wrenches, simple metal tools used to tighten and release nuts and bolts, would be put on the cargo ship scheduled to be sent up to Mir on March 15, Mr. Solovyov said.

The spacewalk was to have been the first for the current crew, which

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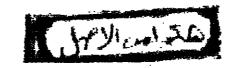
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Legalization lead the panel, Mr. Schroeuer said he would recruit Karl Otto Poehl, a former president of the German central

It is not a glamorous ble be women who work for esconsor e step up from the streetwaller. ness their and brutality every te duck into an alley or climb most. cur — described in chilling de litters of disease, gang rape at ,

But when asked if she thou 2017-from would provide her we The approximation, Irina, 27, who was Amazonka, looked puzzled

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of Russia And not even the mark of impose pelieve that compare in to a restitution is legalist.

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Problem on Mir

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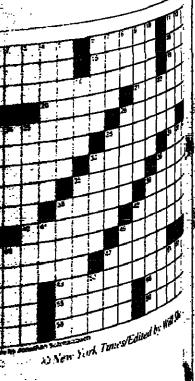
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Ground Control officials and the Station was in no danger despited the space with Min. deget with the space with Min. deget and the space with t regres to be farme being after the 3.12 W 31

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A STOCK OF WICELES, SIMPLE WES just five freely seed to righten and release as attal boiles, would be put on the capture which which which we have a stall boiles and the capture with the capture of March 5 Vr. Solovyov sale The spacewalk was to have the the first for the current cres, that have been also been

Serned Mir in January.



EUROPE

Social Democrats Talk Up the Euro They Soften Schroeder's Position tion of the euro's launching By John Schmid nations by European Union International Herald Technology leaders in early May. FRANKFURT - A day Although Mr. Schroeder after Germany's Social spent much of last year hon-Democrats nominated a caning an image as a Euro-skepdidate for chancellor who tic, he has distanced himself once recommended that

Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar of Slovakia, center, arriving for a cabinet meeting in Bratislava on Tuesday, impasse in the country over the day he took over some presidential powers from Michal Kovac, who stepped down after a five-year term. choosing his successor.

Slovakia Cancels Key Referendum

— The government said Tuesday that it had canceled a bership and on selecting a United States and the Europresident, recalled 28 ambas- pean Union. sadors and granted amnesty to some prisoners.

Minister Vladimir Meciar last month failed to reach said the government was taking over some of the powers of the head of state after President Michal Kovac stepped down at the end of his fiveyear term Monday, leaving no successor.

Deputy Prime Minister Sergej Kozlik was quoted by the opposition daily Sme on Tuesday as saying the refer-endum called by Mr. Kovac for April 19 was illegal.

for the president in future to be elected by direct popular vote rather than nicked by Design 1990. Some countries to be-Mr. Kovac called the plebisment as is the current practice. in a bid to end the political

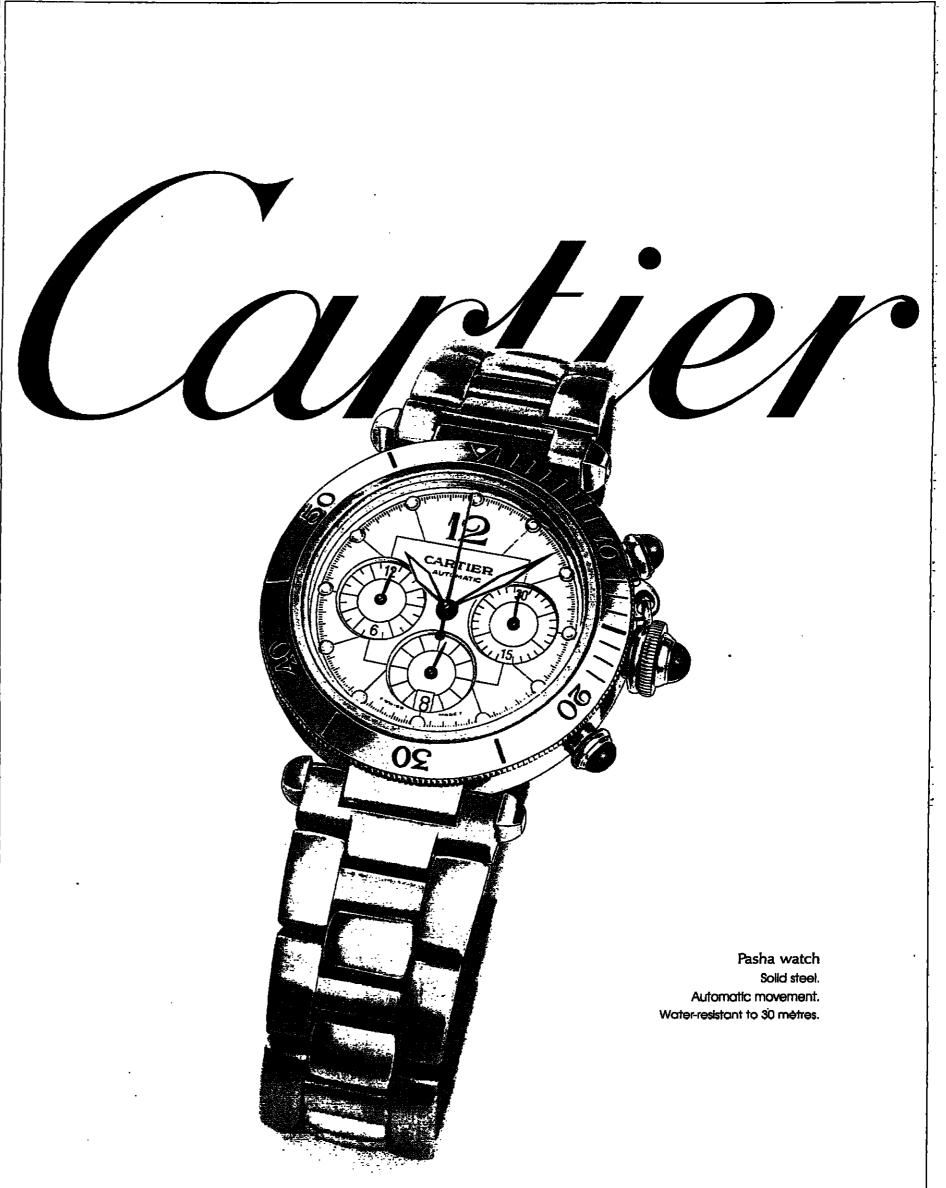
A similar referendum last BRATISLAVA, Slovakia year was blocked by the govemment, a move judged unlawful by the constitutional referendum on NATO mem- court and criticized by the

Parliament is to vote on a successor to Mr. Kovac on A spokesman for Prime Thursday, after a first ballot

agreement. With no political grouping able to muster the three-fifths support required to pick the president, however, neither of the two candidates has any realistic chance of winning.

The referendum would also have asked if Slovakia should join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Siovakia was not invited to. join the first wave of former NATO secretary-general, Javier Solana Madariaga, is due to visit Slovakia on Thursday.



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Reeps about \$10, and the res 64 between the driver, the pump, the Service Owner - and whom: service pays for protection On: good night, which is rare, lane could clear \$80 — more than that factors workers here make make

> convictions, Mr. Schroeder recognizes that monetary union has gained and political affairs, political observers said.

party, it is not worth it," said Dieter Roth, senior researcher date nations announced last at the Forschungs Gruppe Wahlen, an independent in meeting the deficit benchpolitical research firm. "The marks, Mr. Schmieding said. whole discussion will be over in May and the election is not until September," said Mr. made long ago, Mr. Scharp-

planned single currency, the

portray itself as a supporter of

In a reassurance to Bonn's

Immediately after his nom-

analy ze the risks of the euro in

sumers and ensure the sta-

bility of the currency," he

said. "This has nothing to do

with Euro-skepticism.

of currency union.

since then from Germany's Europe consider a delay of its hard-line opponents of the single currency. He kept the issue on the back burner during the campaign before his re-election Sunday as state premier of Lower Saxony, where his emphasis on Germany's record unemployment and his strident attacks on Chancellor Helmut Kohl

won him a strong majority. Attempts by the Social Democrats to exploit voter fears over the loss of the trusted Deutsche mark failed to win votes in several state ised to convene a "roundtable" elections in the last two years, of the best brains in the land to most recently in Hamburg last September — a misstep un impartial manner." To that Mr. Schroeder was care-lead the panel, Mr. Schroeder ful not to repeat in his state.

Despite his latest calls for a review of any risks, Bonn's dent of the German central European partners probably bank and a Social Democrat. have little to worry about if In an interview on German the chancellorship switches radio. Mr. Scharping touted hands in the Sept. 27 election, his party's pro-European cre-dentials. "The goal of our nior economist at Merrill party is to protect the con- Lynch in Frankfurt.

The issue might have had some value before the Hamburg election in attracting right-wing votes, but it will Known more for his prag-matism and populism than for Mr. Roth said. not be interesting after May,"

Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats have accused Mr. Schroeder of populism over too much momentum to be his calls for a delay in the delayed without unleashing inauguration of the euro in chaos in Europe's economic January if the EU fails to apply the euro's budget deficit benchmarks strictly. But 'He will not do anything to adopting an anti-euro stance undermine the position of his has become more difficult in Germany since all 11 candiweek that they had succeeded

"In any event, the political decision on the euro was Roth, referring to the selec- ing told German radio.

BRIEFLY

Protesters Disrupt German Rail

HANNOVER, Germany - Railroad officials said they suspected that anti-nuclear protesters damaged railroad cables in northern Germany on Tuesday, causing long delays to thousands of commuters.

A high-speed intercity train traveling between the ports of Hamburg and Bremen tore down several hundred meters of overhead cable to which claw-shaped hooks had been attached, a spokesman for the Deutsche Bahn

Overhead cables were brought down in two other places in the area, the spokesman added.

The spokesman said a message had been left at the scene that was similar to one found after an attack on railroad lines near Hannover last month, thought to be the work of anti-nuclear protesters.

The police are bracing themselves for protests against the transport by rail of nuclear waste from southern Germany to a storage facility near the northwestern town of Ahaus at the end of the month. (Reuters)

Holocaust Memorial for Vienna

ViENNA — Ending years of debate on whether, when and where a memorial should stand to the 65,000 Viennese victims of the Holocaust, city officials said Tuesday that they expected construction to start soon in the

city's center.
"I expect the moratorium on construction to be suspended in the next few days," said Peter Marboe, the Vienna city councilman. He added that he hoped the monument, with its message of "never again," would turn into "a site for rethinking the whole tragedy." After preliminary work on the proposed site discovered

the remnants of an ancient synagogue, members of the Jewish community argued that it would be sacrilegious to build over the temple.

Announcing an end to the dispute, Mayor Michael Haupl said the monument would be moved slightly to the south, so that it would not be placed squarely over the central, holy chambers of the synagogue.

Ukraine Stands Firm on Missiles

KIEV — Ukraine insists on keeping all its medium-range missiles, President Leonid Kuchma said Tuesday, just days before a scheduled visit by the U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright.

Mr. Kuchma said he would be prepared to get rid of the dilapidated Soviet-era strategic bombers, but in other weapons categories "Ukraine has nothing to reduce." He said other people's opinions on the matter were "of little importance.

Mrs. Albright, who arrives in Kiev on Friday, planned

to hold talks on nuclear nonproliferation and arms reductions, the U.S. Embassy said Tuesday. Washington is putting pressure on Ukraine to pull out of a Russian contract to build a nuclear power station at Bushehr, on Iran's Gulf coast, whereby Kiev would

Yeltsin Ends Cabinet Reshuffle

provide key equipment.

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin named a leading advocate of military reform on Tuesday to fill one of Russia's most influential security posts and signaled that

he had completed a minor government reshuffle. The appointment of a civilian, Andrei Kokoshin, 52, as secretary of the advisory Security Council and a decree opening the way for the council to oversee military reforms ended a shake-up in which four cabinet ministers

were dismissed. The presidential press secretary, Sergei Yasuzhembsky, said that more personnel changes could not be ruled out, but that none appeared to be in the works. (Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL

Ballooning 'Round the World: The Dream Endures, but Reality Intrudes

By Malcolm W. Browne New York Times Service

NEW YORK - If at first you don't succeed try, try again. But what if your goal is simply unattainable?

Take the three-minute mile. Dr. Roger Bannister, the English neurologist who confounded the experts in 1954 by running a mile (1.6 kilometers) in under four minutes, has declared that shaving off another full minute is physiologically impossible. Absolute rules decreed by the limitations of the human body will forever prevent the running of a three-minute mile, Dr. Bannister believes, and all the trying in the world will not change things.

Similarly, engineers have calculated that even if space travelers one day succeed in reaching the-world ballooning season is limited by wind stars beyond the sun, they can never travel to galaxies outside the Milky Way. Unyielding reality seems to rule out such trips.

On a much more modest scale, it has begun to

look as if the odds are also against completing a nonstop balloon trip around the world.

in this year's running, gave up for this year.

One of the balloons in the competition, Switzerland's Breitling Orbiter 2, at least established a new endurance record by staying aloft for 9 days 17 hours 55 minutes — longer even than the 9 days 4 minutes it took for Richard Rutan and Jeana Yeager to fly their unrefueled Voyager airplane nonstop around the world in

But uncooperative jet-stream winds, technical flaws, piloting errors, shortages of money and the refusal of several nations, including China, to grant overflight permission conspired to defeat all the balloonists who tried this year. The roundpatterns to December through February.

Balloonists have been trying to circle the world nonstop for more than a century, and their track record is discouraging.

Of at least 22 attempts since 1873, not one came even close. Two balloons vanished, one Last week, the latest global balloon season burst in midair, five balloonists were killed and

There has been no lack of ingenuity and innovation over the years, although the basic buoyancy system adopted by all the competitors in the attempt this year was invented two centuries ago by a young French physicist, Jean-Francois Piby a light gas (hydrogen or helium) and hot air.

Aside from the fact that Mr. Rozier himself was killed flying such a balloon in 1785 — thus winning distinction as the first human to be killed in an air accident — the Porise system has latte de Rozier. A Rozier balloon is buoyed both in an air accident — the Rozier system has worked fairly well in its later incarnations.

Ballast, essential to all lighter-than-air flying. has changed from lead shot, sand or water to bismuth shot, empty fuel tanks and even compressed air. The Earthwinds balloons captained by Larry Newman, which tried unsuccessfully in the 1980s and 1990s to circle the world, were equipped with compressed-air-ballast "anchor" balloons

that gave them a distinctive hourglass shape. Other innovations include metalized plastic films to reflect sunlight and reduce gas over-

ended in dismal failure when the crew of Britain's several were injured; this year alone, two would-Virgin Global Challenger, the last of five balloons be round-the-worlders were seriously hurt.

The property running and the crew of Britain's several were injured; this year alone, two would-balloon's altitude while the aeronaut sleeps, the balloon's altitude while the aeronaut sleeps, the global-positioning satellite navigation system and pressurized crew capsules.

The first pressurized balloon gondola was built and flown to an altitude of 51,774 feet (15,780 meters) in 1931 by August Picard, the grand-father of Bertrand Picard, commander of the

But the lure of long-distance ballooning has less to do with technology than with adventure. In 1844, Edgar Allan Poe enthralled readers of The New York Sun with his gripping account — a complete hoax — of a balloon journey across the Atlantic Ocean. In truth, no balloonist succeeded in crossing the Atlantic until 1978, but hoax or not, Poe's "news" and its later retraction sold newspapers by the ton.

Perhaps the ultimate in low-tech, high-risk ballooning came in 1982, when Larry Walters, a North Hollywood, California, truck driver, tied 45 helium-filled weather balloons to a lawn chair

After climbing to 16,000 feet he descended safely by popping some of the balloons with a BB

Each failed attempt to circle the world generally plunges a balloonist into gloom, but hope springs eternal.

Steve Fossett, the U.S. commodities broker who holds the world's balloon distance record (10,360 miles), tried again this year and made it only from St. Louis, Missouri, to Krasnodar Russia. Exhausted and cold, he told interviewers after landing that he no longer believed a balloon with an unpressurized capsule like his could make it around the world.

But by last week he had changed his mind. Fresh from setting a new speed record for cross-country skiing, Mr. Fossett said last week that he had been mistaken, adding. "It is possible to fly around the world in an unpressurized capsule. and chances of success next year will be better than ever.

He may or may not be right. But the greatness of the human spirit is less in succeeding than in raising a fist against the impossible.

Rights in Hong Kong Are Facing Time of Trial

Survival of Rule of Law Under China Is at Issue

By Philip Segal International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — The scope of civil rights and the rule of law in Hong Kong is being tested in a series of court cases and government decisions that will draw a clearer, and potentially more ominous picture of life under Chinese rule.

They are expected to address the issues of whether Chinese officials in Hong Kong are subject to its laws, whether Hong Kong's courts would be free to rule on local law even if it upset Beijing, and whether free speech would continue as before.

A Hong Kong government decision last week was seen by opposition politicians as giving Chinese officials a wide berth around the territory's privacy

The privacy law, which came into effect in late 1996, allows individuals to know who has personal data on them, imposes time limits on how long the data "The law was in no sense can be held and allows individuals to request a copy of it from government reveal the reasons for not proceeding offices or businesses. The material is supposed to be handed over within 40 days of the request.

Emily Lau, a pro-democracy politi-cian, decided to test the new law almost immediately by requesting her personal files from the Hong Kong office of the Vishron new rules in the Basic Law is the one which for the first time in Hong Kong outlaws "subversion." China's hand-picked provisional legislature has not Xinhua press agency, which functioned as Beijing's de facto consulate in Hong of the Basic Law. Kong before the former British colony was returned to China last July.

After 10 months, Miss Lau received a one-line note from Xinhua denying her

She complained to Hong Kong's Privacy Commissioner, a local appointee, who agreed she had a right to her files and forwarded his conclusion to the gov-

ernment that her complaint was valid. The Justice Department responded Friday by saying it would not take action against Xinhua for refusing to release the personal files of Miss Lau and another person, whom it did not identify.

The case is one of several that in the

CHINA:

But it has evolved into a more active body, with a year-round professional staff helping to iron out the details of ruled that the government's new imnew laws, missions sent to the provinces to check on the implementation of laws and delegates more openly voicing concerns about, say, crime or unemployment, sometimes with protest votes.

become a stamp made of better quality rubber," said Zhou Wangsheng, a pro-fessor of law at Beijing University. Still, the congress has never reversed an important party decision, and no one expects that to happen this year.

Party leaders see the legislature not as supplanting their power, but as ensuring that policies and laws are better carried out, a Western diplomat said. At the same time, he noted, the gathering in Beijing even of hand-picked delegates serves a communications role.

"It's a valve through which discontent with government policy gets ventilated," the Western diplomat said.

At this session, the departing prime minister, Mr. Li, 69, is expected to be named chairman of the National People's Congress, replacing Qiao Shi, 73, who was a rival of President Jiang's and has been pushed aside.

Mr. Li is unpopular among liberals here, who do not forgive him his role in suppressing the 1989 student protest movement in Tiananmen Square. But President Jiang has clearly found him a valuable ally, perhaps useful for placating the remaining "old guard" and the conservatives.

In one curious effect of the expected changes, Mr. Li will remain ranked No. 2 in the Communist Party politburg, with Mr. Zhu as No. 3, even though Mr. Zhu will hold the more powerful government

How well the two will be able to work together in their respective five-year terms is one of the open questions of the

coming years.
As the meeting approaches, dozens of dissidents or their relatives in China have made public calls for freeing imprisoned democracy advocates, allowing free elections or barring Mr. Li from office. A few have reportedly been de-

coming weeks or months could redraw the limits of the authorities' power in Hong Kong. They could also define how far Hong Kong's courts can go in in-terpreting the Basic Law, the mini-con-stitution that Beijing drafted for Hong Kong, and the document that is supposed to guarantee the continuation of the free-wheeling way of life overseen by the wheeling way of life overseen by the

British before their departure last year. "The government is afraid to take legal action against Xinhua," said Miss Lau, of the Frontier Party. "I think it's most reprehensible."

A spokesman for the Democratic Party of Hong Kong, the territory's most popular party, said, "This means the rule of law applies to everyone unless you're a government official or Xinhua.

In a letter written Monday, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Grenville Cross, declined to explain the decision and took issue with allegations that Xinhua had received special treatment.

with a case could lead to guilt by "public One of the most important untested

yet introduced a bill to enforce the article

But late last year, a private citizen grounds that they had committed "subversive acts.

The writ demands 10 million Hong Kong dollars (\$1.3 million) in compensation from Szeto Wah, chairman of the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement in China, and 3 million dollars each from the Democratic Party leader, Martin Lee, and from a party member, Cheung Man-kwong.

The case is still before court, but a finding in favor of the complainant, which many believe is possible, would radically change the confines of acceptable dissent here. At risk, for example, would be the thousands who take part in Party's Annual Rite would be the thousands who take part in Hong Kong's annual demonstration to commemorate the Tiananmen Square

Continued from Page 1 massacre in Beijing.
Also up in the air is the extent to which the provincial and county party units. Hong Kong's courts can overturn legislation on the grounds that it contra-venes the Basic Law. In January, a judge migration law was unconstitutional. opening the way for several hundred thousand people to immigrate from mainland China.

The government has said it would appeal, but if it loses, Hong Kong will be altogether been wiped out, at least it has territory's Court of Final Appeal, and which are decided by the mainland's more compliant courts. Hong Kong's in which six people died and many shops courts have authority to deal with anything that is not an "Act of State," but that phrase is open to interpretation.



A Berlin bus driver, wearing a vest that reads, "Warning Strike Today," passing through an idle depot Tuesday.

GERMANY: Municipal Workers' Strike Raises Stakes in Election

Continued from Page 1

the past, what with globalization and the currency. filed a writ in court asking that two pro- pressure from Europe." Mr. Klumski Employers and others maintain that their wage package by 4.5 percent.

> Sensing growing pressure on his un-Mr. Klumski saw a broader point,

get here 10 or 15 years later." he said.
"And we saw what happened in Britain
under Margaret Thatcher when the unstate emp ions were smashed. Now they want to achieve that here.'

Indeed, there is a broader point. Ger-

HARARE, Zimbabwe - The coun-

try's trade unions went ahead with a

national anti-tax strike on Tuesday, de-

fying President Robert Mugabe's gov-

ernment, which has declared it illegal

Many businesses were closed across

Zimbabwe has been rocked by a series

of violent protests in recent months, in-

cluding riots over food prices in January

and has denounced it as a campaign to

the country but there were no reports of

unseat him.

violence by midday.

Strike Over Taxes Begins in Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade settle landless blacks. He says he still

Unions called a two-day strike starting feels young, competent and in control.

al competition just as pressure is in- free, noncontributory state pension. creasing to cut public spending in the The union, by contrast, wants a pack"We know that things can't be like in name of the planned European single age of modest pay increases and job

democracy groups be disbanded on the grounds that they had committed "subfar."

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In the disbanded on the grounds that they had committed "subfar."

The union is also pressing for the 40cut, then Germany will not be flexible hour workweek of its members in Eastern enough to meet those challenges and - which represents public service. thereby reduce its record 4.8 million transport and municipal transit workers unemployed, representing 12 percent of

the work force. What that comes down to for people Things that start in the United States like Mr. Klumski is Deutsche marks and costly sense of all-embracing social

In negotiations between his union and state employers, the government side is of salary and for the phasing out of many. Europe's ponderous economic a program providing 3.2 million year six weeks paid vacation, plus 10

pressing for a reduction in sick pay from 100 percent to an initial 80 percent powerhouse, is facing the rigors of glob- municipal workers like him with a

Tuesday to press Mr. Mugabe to scrap a

2.5 percentage-point increase in the

sales tax and to review a 5 percent de-

velopment levy, a 15 percent tax on

pension profits and recent food-price

They rejected appeals by the government to call it off, saying Mr. Mugabe

was not offering anything other than

Mr. Mugabe, 74, in power since the former British colony of Rhodesia

gained independence in 1980, says the

strike is a ploy sponsored by whites angry over his government's plans to

grab mainly white-owned farms to re-

security measures that would increase

Germany to be shortened to match the 38.5 hours of the West, reductions in working hours and overtime, and the introduction part-time work for retirees.

What is really at issue, though, is the guarantees that postwar Germans have

long taken for granted. Take, for instance, a bus driver with 16 years' service, Mr. Klumski said: gross pay before stoppages, 4,067 DM (\$2,245) a month for 13 paychecks per days paid public holidays.

The take-home pay is much less — ranging from \$1,000 per month for an unmarried, childless driver with little experience to about \$1,500 for a married driver with two children.

But the real value of the bus driver's job lies in withholdings that are matched 100 percent by the employer, making the cost of hiring much higher than the nominal gross salary. And that combined amount of withholdings from employer and employee finances the health care. schooling, social security, sick pay, oldage care and unemployment benefits at the core of what modern Germans call

the "social market economy. The sense that history's tide may be running against all that is what makes people like Mr. Klumski uneasy.

"They have been trying to cut our benefits for 20 years," he said. "It was easier in the past to hold on to them. Now the pressure is more difficult to resist."

BRIEFLY

Colombian Army Goes on High Alert

BOGOTA - Colombia's military was put on maximum alen Tuesday in an effort to curb violence leading up to nationwide leg-

islative elections on Sunday. The armed forces' high command said leave had been suspended for all members of the security forces. More than 20 million Colombi-

ans are eligible to vote for 102 senators and 181 members of the House of Representatives. Marxist rebels, who have called for a boycott of the poll on the grounds that it will perpetuate a corrupt system, control about half the country. (Reuters)

Haiti Seeks Return Of Junta Leaders

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -Haiti has asked Panama, Honduras and the United States to extradite 10 leaders of a 1991 military coup so they can be tried on murder and torture charges, officials of the For-eign Affairs Ministry said Monday.

The requests were made two weeks ago under warrants issued in December that accused the leader of the former military junta, Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras; the former police chief, Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Michel Francois; General Philippe Biamby, and seven other soldiers of carrying out murder, torture and illegal arrests during their three-year rule.

Human-rights groups contend nat about 3.000 people were killed under the military government, which ruled Haiti from the time Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted as president in 1991 until he was returned to power by a U.S.-led force in 1994. (Reuters)

Mexican Judge Is Suspended

MEXICO CITY -- Mexico City's highest court has suspended for three months a judge who freed the suspected killer of a U.S. businessman, a

court spokeswoman said. The spokeswoman said the Superior Tribunal of Justice decided to punish Judge Maria Claudia Campuzano because of procedural mistakes in the freeing of Alfonso Gonzalez Sanchez. Ĥe was recaptured last month. (Reuters)

For the Record

Riot policemen in Lagos fired tear gas Tuesday to disperse dozens of protesters rallying here against the military rule of General Sani Abacha, witnesses said. In Abuja, meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of people rallied to support calls for General Abacha to stay in power despite his promise to restore civilian rule in October. (Reuters)

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Henry Steele Commager, Acclaimed Historian and Teacher, Dies

New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Henry Steele Commager, one of America's most distinguished historians and teachers, a prolific author, editor and essayist, and an eloquent defender of the Constitution, died Monday at his home in Amherst, Massachusetts. He was 95 years old.

For decades, the name Henry Steele Commager was synonymous with American history. Starting in the 1930s, he published a torrent of histories, biographies, textbooks, anthologies and inquiries into the nature of democracy and the American mind. His essays in newspapers, journals and magazines were an important part of any dialogue on the issues of his day.

He also taught history and American studies for 66 years, 36 of them at Amherst College, 18 at Columbia University and 12 at New York University. He was still teaching into his 80s and said he could not imagine not doing so.

"What every college must do," he said, "is hold up before the young the spectacle of greatness" in history, litcrature and life.

He accomplished all this while plagued by poor eyesight that deteriorated nearly to blindness, relying on a phenomenal memory and extraordinary

Arthur Schlesinger Jr., the historian,

called him "a great teacher and one of the century's notable historians. Mr. Schlesinger said Mr. Commager

brought to his profession an "analytical keenness, grace and lucidity of expres-sion, and a disciplined passion for the integrity and hope of the democratic

These were among his important books:

• "The Growth of the American Republic" (1930), of which he was coauthor, and which became a standard college textbook for more than four de-

• "The American Mind" (1951), regarded by many historians and critics as his best work, which explored the cul-tural and philosophical forces that shaped the nation's outlook.

• "The Empire of Reason: How Europe Imagined and America Realized the Enlightenment" (1977), which was described in The New York Times as "his most brilliant work." In it he rejected what he termed the "sterile" economic determinism inspired by the historian Charles Beard and held that Americans of the late 18th and early 19th centuries had the courage and audacity to put into practice and law the principles of the Age of Enlightenment only envisioned by great European philosophers.

• "Documents of American History"

Henry Steele Commager, who published a torrent of books.

thologist America ever produced."

(1934) and "The Blue and the Gray: The

Story of the Civil War as Told by Participants" (1950), two anthologies invaluable to American historians, which were part of the work that prompted Alfred Fried, a historian at the State University of New York at Purchase, to call Mr. Commager "the greatest an-

stitutional grounds to reassert its authority over the waging of war and appealing to the public on moral grounds. His opposition to the war in Vietnam was not confined to his writing. He gal-

vanized an anti-war rally on the Amberst campus in 1970 with the fluency and force of his contentions. "Having the United States in Vietnam is like having the Chinese invade

the shores of Long Island!" thundered this jaunty little man with the thatch of Mr. Commager was born in Pitts-burgh on Oct. 25, 1902, the son of James and Anna Elizabeth Commager. He was

orphaned in childhood and raised by his

maternal grandfather, who was of Danish origin and was a founder of American Lutheranism. He grew up in Toledo, Ohio, and Chicago, where he graduated from high school and enrolled at the University of belief in the American Constitution and Chicago, working as a harvest hand in his trust in reason: People can learn, he the summers and tending furnaces at

night in winters. He earned his bachelor's degree at Chicago in 1923, his master's the next

against American involvement in In-dochina, appealing to Congress on con-earning his degrees, he taught at Chicago, in Europe and at New York Uni-

By the time he was 28, Mr. Commager had been appointed to the NYU faculty and had completed two books, "The Reform Movement in Denmark," for which he received the American Hisfirst book by an American historian, and The Literature of the Pioneer West."

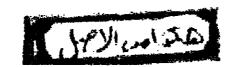
His reputation soared with the publication of "The Growth of the American Republic," which was written with. Samuel Eliot Morison of Harvard. (William Leuchtenburg joined the collab-oration in 1969 for subsequent editions.) It was principally through this work, a readable and detailed narrative, that thousands of American college students obtained their basic knowledge of their

country's history.
Like all of Mr. Commager's work, the book is suffused with his Jeffersonian insisted.

Issues can be explored, explained and debated, and the people of the new American democracy, armed with year and his doctorate in history four knowledge and freedom to dissent. aryears after that. He spent a year at the gue and choose, will make the right In 1966 Mr. Commager warned University of Copenhagen studying decisions for their common welfare.

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Steve Fossett, the U.S. commodile who holds the world's balloon distant tried again this tried who holds the world's ballon distance (10,350 miles), tried again this year all.

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Haiti Seeks Retur Of Junta Leaden

PORT-AL-PRINCE, Hag

Mart has asked Panama Hose and the United States to estrate causers of a 1901 military age. they can be tried on morde: terriure charges, officials of the uigh Affairs Ministry and Mer. The requests were made: o dans also under warrant said. December that accused the lake. the fermer military junta like ant General Raoul Collecti corner police chief. Lienerale nne: Joseph Michel Franco.lis enail Phanere Biamby, an exother soldiers of common or municipal temper and illegiss. during their three-year the Harris rights groups 🕸 **使用"**" the and significant people seeds under the military gorante. which teled Ham from the B. Jaun-Bertrano Arinde was die as president in [90] and her. returned to times by a USE

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| Teacher, Dies

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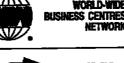
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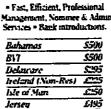
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Kohl's Challenger

Germany's Social Democrats, out of power 16 years, now have an appealing candidate to run against Chancellor Helmut Kohl in September. Gerhard Schroeder, pragmatic, telegenic and more than a decade younger than the 67-year-old Kohl, was chosen Monday, shortly after winning re-election as premier of Lower Saxony. But it will probably take more than personal appeal to lead the Social Democrats out

of the wilderness. Mr. Schroeder has yet to shape himself or his party as a convincing ex-ponent of the new, radical centrist approach represented by Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain or, to a lesser extent, Bill Clinton. Fusing liberal elements like targeted programs for the poor and environmental protection with conservative ideas like deregulation, balanced budgets and welfareto-work initiatives, radical centrism has proved an electoral tonic for demoralized center-left parties like the Social Democrats. But in Continental Europe, middle-class voters still see the welfare state as a birthright.

Mr. Schroeder waxes enthusiastic about the power of business and markets to create jobs but also staunchly defends middle-class benefits and subsidized employment. In Lower Saxony his popularity has been built on deficit

spending, job subsidies and public ownership. But the policies he has followed in that beavily industrialized state may not be a fair guide to his plans for Germany as a whole.

Mr. Kohl has built an impressive record in 16 years as chancellor, leading the way to German reunification and now the single European currency. But unemployment, at 12 percent, has become a dominating issue, which helps explain why Mr. Kohl is behind in the polls.

Germany's voters are also uneasy about giving up their own currency, the mark, which has been an icon of monetary stability.

When Mr. Blair took over the Labour leadership in Britain, he had a clear vision of the future, which he used to reshape his party and win over a skeptical electorate. Lionel Jospin's successful Socialist campaign for prime minister of France last year was refined through his unsuccessful run for president two years earlier. Mr. Schroeder starts with less time, less clarity and a more formidable opponent. He still has a chance, but he must give new focus to the Social Democrats and convince one of Europe's most cautious electorates that his party can offer Germany modem, responsible government.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Toothless on China

The Clinton administration long ago abandoned human rights as a primary consideration in dealing with China, but it claimed an intention at least to continue speaking out on the issue.

The substance of U.S.-China relations — in other words, trade, military contacts, high-level summit meetings - would go forward no matter what abuses China's leaders committed against their own people, but the United States would, in Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's famous phrase, "tell it like it is" nonetheless. Now, however, it seems the administration may sacrifice even truthtelling so as not to offend China's

Communist regime. The immediate issue is whether to sponsor a resolution at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights when it convenes in Geneva next month. You wouldn't think this would be a tough call. Such a resolution would moderately criticize China's re-cord and call for improvements; it would impose no penalty beyond welldeserved embarrassment.

The democracy advocate Wei Jingsheng nevertheless calls the resolution "a matter of life and death" for reform in human rights. Among them: The in China. President Bill Clinton ex- visit of the UN human rights complicitly promised, back when he delinked trade and human rights in 1994, that the administration "would step up its efforts" to get such a resolution approved. China's regime remains as oppressive today as it was then.

That much is clear, in fact, from the State Department's own human rights report, which — despite a touch of whitewash this year — does mostly tell it like it is, painting a dismal picture of China's "widespread and well-documented human rights abuses."

These include torture, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrest and detention. forced abortion and sterilization, crackdowns on independent Catholic and Protestant bishops and believers. brutal oppression of ethnic minorities

and religions in Tibet and Xinjiang and, of course, absolute intolerance of free political speech or free press.

Just last month, the FBI arrested two Chinese citizens for allegedly marketing human organs harvested from some of the 6,000 prisoners China executes each year. If prisoners are being killed in order to provide organs, it "would be among the grossest violations of human rights imaginable," Stanley O. Roth, assistant secretary of state for East Asian affairs, said last summer.

Yet from Mr. Clinton, still no word on plans for Geneva. Last year the administration similarly dithered and delayed, eventually hiding behind tiny Denmark, which sponsored a resolution. China responded, with grace matching America's courage, by warning that the human rights resolution would "become a rock that smashes on the Danish government's head."

This year, while the U.S. administration again has been unable to make up its mind, the entire European Union opted out, cravenly vowing not to cosponsor any resolution. The EU then cited a series of inadequate "bench-marks" to measure Chinese progress missioner to China "should be taken

seriously by the Chinese leadership."

It may be too late now for the United States to rally a coalition of countries that would guarantee a fair hearing for a resolution on China, but it is not too late for Mr. Clinton to support such a measure nonetheless. He can still send a message that America supports, or at least sympathizes with, the fighters for freedom inside China; alternatively, he can send a message that his friendship with their oppressors is too important to put at risk with any impolite words. For someone who hopes to become this year the first president to visit China since the Tiananmen massacre, this

should be an easy choice. — THE WASHINGTON POST.

Congress and the Clock

Herald Cribune

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Congress has only 60 or 70 serious amounted to less than met the ear. It is legislative days remaining before it mainly the economy that has driven adjourns and the members go home for the fall campaign. It's not clear how much it will be able to accomplish.

A lot of legislative possibilities already have been foreclosed. There won't be a campaign finance bill. It's unlikely there will be significant environmental legislation. The unre-'solved budget problem of how to reduce or finance the future cost of the aid to the elderly that goes out in the form of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid is not expected to be taken up until the next Congress, if then. The president has called for a tobacco bill, a legislated code of conduct for the managed-care industry and increased federal child care subsidies. All three face pockets of opposition and would be complex bills to write in the best of circumstances. Now they also face the clock. The prospects are unclear.

The budget bill that was last year's principal accomplishment itself

down the deficit. The tax cuts in the budget bill will have the long-term effect of accentuating the problem that the bill purported to resolve. The main achievement may have been less fiscal than programmatic — a 50 percent increase in federal aid to higher education, mainly in the form of tuition tax

Perhaps half the available remaining time will be taken up with the mandatory measures Congress either has to pass or badly wants to in an election year — the budget resolution, appropriations bills including a supplemental that could set off an enormous struggle and the highway bill. The president also may renew his request for trade negotiation authority, and the Senate will have before it, for its advice and consent, both NATO expansion and, we hope, a considerable number of judicial appointments.

- THE WASHINGTON POST

cuts for the middle class.

TN A matter of days, all normal political discussion was A suspended. Even the most dreary newspapers became sexobsessed. It did not matter that the central act was committed by two adults, willingly (indeed, enthusiastically) behind closed doors. We all convinced ourselves this was a matter of public interest. He denied everything, of course, but he would, wouldn't he? All that matters is that he eventually confesses the truth, resigns and devotes his life to charity.

A Lesson From Fleet Street

In 1963, John Profumo was forced to resign as Britain's minister of defense in a scandal that set the basic rules for what might be called "Tabloid Trivial Pursuit," a game that has finally arrived in the United States.

Mr. Profumo had an affair with a young girl-about-town, Christine Keeler. At first, Fleet Street treated him gently. But soon the hunt was on, with newspapers falling over each other to provide juicier details of upper-class hanky-panky. This prurience was justified on two grounds: First, Miss Keeler also had a Russian lover (so there was a question of national security) and, second, Mr. Profumo had denied having the affair to the House of Commons (an impeachable mistake). Since then, this farce has been repeated countless times in

In their intensity and prurience, the current sex allegations hounding Bill Clinton make this the first American affair to have the feel of a proper British sex scandal.

But why now? It is tempting to argue that this is all just a

function of Mr. Clinton, and his innocence or obstinacy. But it also has a lot to do with a subtle change in the nature of America's media.

British politicians are not necessarily more perverted than their U.S. peers. But they do face a far more vicious media. In Britain, a politician with a dirty secret wakes up to find half a dozen tabloid reporters howling at his door. Driven on by proprietors such as Rupert Murdoch, the tabloids are highly competitive, witty, widely read and not especially fussy about

facts. They are also every lying politician's nightmare.

Despite Hillary Rodham Clinton's assertion that there is a conspiracy against her husband, the most notable thing about the U.S. media has been its restraint. In 1992, the journalistic establishment took the attitude that it was fine that they all knew Gennifer Flowers was telling the truth; they just didn't need to tell the people.

The difference now is the Internet — and particularly Matt Drudge, whose Web site has become sort of a virtual American version of El Vino's bar, the legendary Fleet Street haunt where British hacks used to trade stories.

- John Micklethwait. New York hureau chief for The Economist, commenting in the Los Angeles Times.

Ducking the Hard Questions on NATO's Endgame

WASHINGTON — Last week, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee put on a shameful performance. Senators Jesse Helms, Joe Biden & Co. rolled over like puppies having their bellies rubbed when Clinton officials explained their plans for NATO expansion by dodging all the hard questions.

It's too bad CNN couldn't entice the

Clinton team to go out to Ohio State University again and hold a "town meeting" on NATO expansion. If they did, it would sound like this:

Student: "I've got a question for Secretary of Defense Cohen. When you were here before, you had a hard time defining what the endgame would be if we bombed Iraq. What's the endgame of NATO expansion? I mean, if we just admit Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, all we will be doing is redividing Europe slightly to the east. And if we actually do what you advocate, expand NATO to the Baltic states, up to ossia's border, we will be redividing NATO, since the British, French and Germans are not ready to go that far because they know it would be treated by Russia as a strategic threat."

William Cohen: "Son, we've got our NATO endgame figured out just

like we do on Iraq, It's called kick the can down the road and hope it all works out in the end.

Student: "National security adviser Berger, you now say NATO expansion will only cost \$1.5 billion over 10 years, when just last year the Pentagon said it would be \$27 billion over 13 years, and the Congressional Budget Office said it could be \$125 billion over 15 years. How come NATO expansion gets cheaper every day it gets closer to a Senate vote? And how does it get cheaper when Engage and it was a few and the said of the er when France says it won't pay a dime and the Czech Republic doesn't own a single advanced fighter jet, so it will

need to buy a whole new air force?"
Sandy Berger: "Our NATO numbers were prepared by the same accountants who said the U.S. budget was balanced. I rest my case.'

Student: "Secretary Albright, you say we have to bomb Iraq because Saddam has all these weapons of mass destruction. But the Russians have 7,500 long-range nuclear missiles, loose warheads falling off trucks and a bunch of Dr. Strangelove scientists looking for

By Thomas L. Friedman work. And we have a nuclear reduction not implemented because of resistance in Parliament to NATO expansion. How could you put a higher priority on bringing Hungary into NATO than on work-

ing with Russia on proliferation?"

Madeleine Albright: "Oh, please. You want to blame everything on NATO expansion, like it's El Niño."

Student: "I'm sorry, Madame Secretary, but that's not an answer. You keep dodging this question. You can say that the Russians can't stop NATO expansion. And you can say that it's worth risking a new Cold War to bring these three countries into NATO. But you can't deny that NATO expansion has contributed to Russia's refusal to ratify the START-2 treaty, which is an enormous loss to U.S. national security."

War veteran: "Secretary Cohen, I-thought we fought the Cold War to change Russia, not to expand NATO. But now that we've changed Russia and should be consolidating that, you want to expand NATO?"
Mr. Cohen: "NATO expansion is not

directed against Russia. It's meant to secure the new democracies in Eastern

Heckler: "If it's meant to secure de. treaty that the Russians have signed but mocracy in new democracies, isn't the most important new democracy Russia? And why is your P.R. campaign for expansion being funded by U.S. arms sellers, who see NATO expansion as market expansion for their weapons?"

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Student: "I just got the spring issue of The National Interest magazine. It contains a letter from George Kennan the architect of America's Cold War. containment of the Soviet Union and one of our nation's greatest statesmen Kennan says NATO expansion is a historic blunder. What do you all know that he doesn't?"

Mr. Berger: "I have the greatest respect for Mr. Kennan, but our team has its own Russia expert, Strobe Talbott, who speaks Russian, has written books about Russia and some of his best friends are Russians. He couldn't possibly be anti-Russian, and he's for NATO expansion."

Student: "Excuse me, but didn't Talbott write the first memo to Secretary of State Warren Christopher opposing NATO expansion because ... Bernard Shaw: "Sorry to interrupt,

The New York Times.

We've got to close."

Asia's Crisis Won't End Until Japan Confronts Its Own

WASHINGTON -- So far, the financial crisis in Asia has not had much effect on Japan to change its wretched rying at least \$600 billion in bad

putting downward pressure on prices, the crisis has tamed instock market is up 13 percent in two months. But it's unlikely that this

cheery equilibrium will last. As Alan Greenspan delicately put it: "Asia may damp activity and prices by more than is desirable." The typhoon is headed our way. What can we do? Congress is

debating whether to give the International Monetary Fund an additional \$18 billion. I am opposed to IMF bailouts because they encourage more risky lending down the road — and thus more crises.

But the IMF controversy is just a sideshow. The real story in Asia is not South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand — the three countries that are getting IMF help. No, the real story is Japan.

Japan is the villain. Japan could be the hero. But, for inexplicable reasons, U.S. policymakers do not want to lean hard By James K. Glassman

on us in the United States. In fiscal and financial policies. It fact, it may have helped us. By is time to stop being so polite and to get tough.

Japan is guilty in two ways:

other Asian countries have followed — one in which, as William Gruben of the Dallas Fed says, "Banks, large corporations and governments operate in the same close relationship year after year." This system of command-and-control capitalism, so admired by American journalists and academics in the 1980s, has been a disaster.

It has led to overinvestment and a misallocation of capital problems that would not have arisen given the normal feedback mechanisms of a free market, run to benefit

The inevitable collapse of the Japanese financial bubble has produced the second source of Japanese culpability: its current economy. Japan has been mired in stagnation since 1990.

One big reason is that the of their banks, which are car- Last year the government ac- tivity rises in Asia, borrowers The Washington Post.

loans. A few banks are failing, but more must.

The bad debts have to be written off and the surviving banks flation, which is one reason the First, it set the model that the freed from the shackles of their corporate owners and the government, allowed to lend vigorously and to make decent profits. As it is, the banking system is frozen. Japan's banks are not lending, indeed, they have a hard time raising money. Can they reform? A long ar-

ticle in the current issue of Euromoney casts serious doubt. "The most difficult thing for Japanese banks to change will be the widely held view that the Japanese system is unique and better than that in other countries." This is a difficult belief to

hold in the face of the facts. The Japanese stock market, for instance, has fallen from a high of 39,000 at the end of 1989 to 17,000 today. Real estate prices have collapsed.

Beyond bank reform, the demand: Cut taxes and loosen Japanese authorities refuse to up the supply of money. In- for goods produced in the rest of acknowledge the true condition stead, it has done the opposite. Asia... As manufacturing ac-

tually raised the value-added tax, and since then automobile sales (to cite just one statistic) have fallen 22 percent.

But the big problem is money. 'Japan's devastating sevenyear deflation could be stopped within months if it revised monetary policy," says David Mal-pass, chief international economist at Bear Steams.

Japan, in short, should print money. That would wake up consumers and get the economy moving again. But Japan won't. Why? Maybe it's a matter of

national pride in a "unique" system; maybe no one has asked forcefully enough. While the reasons for Japan's policies may be obscure, the effects are clear: A stagnant Japan is a lousy market for goods from the troubled Asian economies.

"Asia needs to grow its way out of trouble," writes Jeff Uscher, editor of Grant's Asia Observer, a newsletter that has offered excellent coverage of the crisis.

"If the moribund Japanese way out for Japan is to stimulate economy were to show signs of a pulse, it would create demand

will once again be able to ser-vice their debts and Japanese banks will, once again, be willing to lend the marginal dollar, in Asia.''

In fact, it is the Japanese, banks that have the most at stake in Asia: \$275 billion in loans. about one-third of that to Korea. Thailand and Indonesia. "The crisis in Asia will not

be over until the crisis in Japan is over," writes Mr. Uscher. "It' is not the United States, the IMF or the credit rating agencies that hold the key to Asia's recovery. It is Japan.

Yes, but the United States should not be a bystander. Rather than sending \$18 billion more to the IMF, we should push Japan hard to mend its ways.

If we fail, we may, by the second half of the year, feel the typhoon: deflation, slower growth, higher unemployment. lower stock prices - and perhaps we'll see some politicians wandering around dazed by their defeat at the hands of angry voters in November.

The writer is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute He contributed this comment to

U.S. and Britain: Shoulder to Shoulder Into the Breach

ONDON — When Kofi An-Lnan spoke to the world press in New York after brokering the deal with Iraq, he paid generous tribute to President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Tony Blair,

line the UN diplomatic mission to Baghdad would have failed. Whatever the outcome of the current crisis, one strong image stands out — that of the United States and Britain standing shoulder to shoulder and refusing to blink before Saddam

The image of British-American solidarity is a potent one. At one level, of course, it is deeply flawed: It was, after all, the uprising of American colonists in The British-American detente—

By Denis Judd the late 18th century that led to and thus, in meaningful terms, one of Britain's most traumatic the "special relationship" —

implying that without their tough ering in its aftermath. It was the American government's disapproval of Britain's quired a formal colonial empire rash Suez invasion of 1956-57 and its refusal to support the pound sterling which did the most to force the humiliating British withdrawal from Egypt,

and which exposed her imperial pretensions as a sham. Despite this, the pluses ap-parently easily outweigh the minuses, at least in the received wisdom of the last 100 years.

defeats ever. Then there was the began in earnest exactly a century ago, when the United States tury ago, when the United States fought its brisk and ludicrously

> in the Caribbean and the Pacific, and in the process joined the powerful and exclusive club of Western imperial powers. Rudyard Kipling promptly published his poem urging the United States to join with Bri-

successful war with Spain; ac-

Take up the White man's burden / Send forth the best ye breed.

tain in its global civilizing mis-

He had no need to worry. British policymakers were already determined to bring in the new world to help prop up the old. Recognizing that Britain's global supremacy was faltering and that her industrial and naval lead was under serious threat. British governments made haste to appease the manifest power of the United States and thus to extend the empire's lease — at least in the Western hemisphere and, it

was hoped, beyond. Fortunately, British and American global interests were only marginally in conflict, as compared with those of, say, Britain and France or Britain and Germany. Where there were potential clashes between London and Washington as in the Venezuela-British Guyana and the Alaska border disputes, or over the Panama

Canal Treaty — Britain simply sold out to American interests. Such realpolitik was reinforced by the late 19th century phenomenon of powerful Brit-ish statesmen and public figures marrying attractive and often wealthy American women. Among the Britons to enter

into such alliances were Lord Randolph Churchill (father of Winston), Joseph Chamberlain (colonial secretary, 1895-1903), Lord Curzon (viceroy of India, 1898-1905), Lewis Harcourt (a Liberal leader), the Duke of Manchester and Rudyard Kipling. In 1887, Chamberlain pub-

licly asserted: "I refuse to NEW YORK - For several speak or to think of the USA as a foreign nation. We are all of the same race and blood. ... Our past is theirs — their future is ours ... We are branches of one

strengthened by the trans-At- majority appears to favor the man treaty now is inadequate.

lantic links of commerce, bank- substance symbolized by coring and insurance, as well as by a shared linguistic, cultural, political and legal inheritance. Early in the 20th century, even the Titanic disaster seemed part of a shared British-

British point of view, was a turning point. the interwar period and American grumbles over the painfully slow pace of British de-colonization, U.S. participation

in World War II was even more

crucial to the survival of Britain and its empire. The shared experiences of 1941-45, the imperatives of the Cold War and the rising and seductive tide of American popular culture drew the two great English-speaking nations even

more closely together. This so alarmed Charles de Gaulle — more worried by Anglo-Saxons than by Reds under the bed — that he vetoed Britain's first application to join the European Economic Community. He was eager to keep out what he saw as a Trojan horse packed not with Greeks but with Americans.

Despite the occasional stumble, British-American cooperation has carried on, its Herald Tribune.

dial and affectionate working relationships between national leaders: Macmillan and Kennedy, Thatcher and Reagan and now Blair and Clinton.

Standing shoulder American experience, a point shoulder has its drawbacks, vividly reinforced by the new film. The U.S. entry into World however. It can arouse jealousy in onlookers. It also may limit War I, though belated from the maneuverability. Worst, it allows for comparisons.

In effect, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Despite the isolationism of Blair do not stand equally tall; the scale of the American military commitment to haq dwarfs that of Britain — a useful reminder of the United Kingdom's reduced circumstances, Critics describe Mr. Blair as Mr. Clinton's poodle. Nobody can

doubt who calls the shots. And yet there is something strangely comforting, certainly familiar, about the British American stance — from the rhetoric about democracies confronting bloodstained tyrants to the easygoing comrade; ship in arms. There are many more ignoble things that each nation might be doing as the 20th century nears its end.

The writer is a historian whose most recent book is "Em pire: The British Imperial Experience From 1765 to the Present." He contributed this comment to the International

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: War Fever Drops LONDON — The Daily Mail says: "As we anticipated, the

war scare over the loss of the Maine has died a natural death. The fact is that our cousins so many sea miles removed are a mercurial lot and delight in talk of war like the Aborigines who held America before them, but they are also business men and very level-headed, and so they know that war with Spain would mean an enormous loss of trade, and under no circumstances any gain whatever."

1923: Muffled Bells

months there has been considerable discussion among the clergy of the United States as to whether they should allow church bells to be rung at mar-

present arrangement allowing wedding peals if the contracting parties desire them, but the Chartanooga Ministers' Association has decided that henceforts when divorced persons are marsignify that the marriage of divorced persons is not entirely approved by the association.

1948: 'Western Pact'

PARIS - France, on the eve of

the five-power "Western Pact" conference at Brussels, accepted the Inter-American Defense of Treaty as the best model of which to build a western European Alliance. When the conference was first talked about Britain and France favored fold Britain and France lowing the lines of their own lowing the lines of their own lowing the lines of their own lower peace and peace and line and lin riages when either party has sion about Finland, have made it is s

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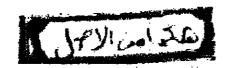
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rate a less than per record can we assure now be avoiding a States? Or as police ment and corrupts problem there?

DAVID BO

I WILLIAM

OPINION/LETTERS



TO's Endgam Please, Thank You and a Bronx Cheer But the frenetic pace of this

Heckler: "If it's mean not moracy in new democracy in new least than any other city in the wery does not new york has a lot of dogs, seliers, who see NATO in the world. It is also a market expansion for the world. It is also a what's more, these cynics argued, no one was going to make trend in crime, But in this city and use their domos, these cynics argued, no one was going to what's more, these cynics argued, no one was going to make trend in crime, But in this city and use their dogs, and estimate to make the contains a letter from Genge, was have a young any autention at all to Mr. Giuliani. I demur: Nut'n—as they say here — could be given to the mayor and the contains a letter from Genge, was here — could be fold from da root.

OK. I'll stop — the ringing success of the pooper and to trend in crime, But in this city and it med in the man and to Mr. Giulian

Mr. Berger: "I have the the 20-year-old "puoper-bas its own Russia expension, but the section that the mayor of this 4 books about Russia and town. Rudolph Giuliani, is books about Russia and some not totally nuts for asking best friends are Russians, the content of possibly be anti-Russian, the content of the content o

Student: "Excuse me, but the first memoto State Warren Christopher on wants civics — for crying out NATO expansion because to be because to be be because to be be because to be be because to be because to be because to be be be because to be be be because to be be because to be be because to be be because to

The New York Tones

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could be stopped panks that have the men if it revised monin Asia: \$275 billion; says David Malabout one-third of the ternational econ-Thatland and Indones The crisis in Ase: part, should price be over until the cres; winder wake up is over, "writes Mr. lie is not the United States get the economy But Jarem wen't

or the credit rating are hold the key to Asia he to rattern c é lla ex It is Japan." ■ no one nos Yes, but the Unger ly enough While should not be a le n Japan's policies. Rather than sending St the effects are more to the IMF, we she Japan hard to mend is: papit Japan is a prigoods from the If we tail we man

second half of the year. growth, higher mane lower stock pres - z haps we'll see some put wandering around der their defeat at the beangry oters in Novae

American Enterpole He contributed to #5 Asia, barowers The Washington's

or Nice's exceedingly modest proposal was met with Bronx cheers, derision and a kind of cynicism typical of this fair

40 years younger than their husbands' and legs like a stork's would pick up after their toy dogs, I would have guffawed. But time and time again I have seen it happen. The combination of government programs and social pressure can be awfully ef-

Somewhat the same thing has happened all over America when it comes to smoking. People don't do it anymore in closed-in places.

Of course, the law forbids it, but that's only part of the story. Standards of behavior have changed. It is simply not considered courteous any more to bother others with

a child. I noticed men in a restaurant sitting under a "No Smoking" sign, puffing away. I asked my Uncle Sy how this could be happening.
"The sign just says 'No
Smoking,' 'he explained.
"It doesn't say 'Positive-

I appreciate that. If you come to a corner, cut it. If the street is narrow and there's a slight break in the traffic, jaywalk. Time is can happen anywhere. money, as everyone here

city would hardly be slowed by some common courtesy. The uttering of an occasional will not cause the stock market to plunge. Probably.

But in many respects, the rest of the country is becoming more and more like New York. The city's anonymity, both liberating and alienating, permitted reckless, rude behavior. But so now do vast stretches of America. Enraged drivers anywhere know they are not likely to meet the guy they just out off; the woman who slips into a parking space just ahead of you is probably not someone you'll

ever see again. So when Mr. Giuliani, citing Plato's concept of reaching for the ideal, commands New Yorkers to be nice to one another, the rest of the country ought to cheer him on, instead of scoffing, New York style, at such idealism, song, if it can happen here, it

> Ya got a problem wit dat? The Bastangton Post

The Sad Tale of a Popular President

YEW YORK — Once there was a president named Warren Hard-

The American people loved him. They elected him in 1920 in one of the

greatest landslides ever. Warren looked like a president. He had a strong jaw and wavy hair. He called for things, such as a "re-

turn to normalcy," that people wanted to hear after the exhausting, distillusioning struggle to win World War I. Warren had a wife named Florence

He was terrified of her. She had pushed him to run for president. When she snupped "Warrun!" you could almost hear his teeth chatter. Warren and Florence encouraged

people to visit the White House. They called it "the people's White House." Sometimes Florence came downstairs herself and escorted tourists around. The people loved that, too. They did not have polls in those days, but everyone agreed that Warren and Florence were among the most popular

presidential couples in history. Warren had a mistress named Nan-Britton, a blond 20-something. He used to smuggle her into the White House when Florence was not looking. By Thomas Fleming

warn Warren if Florence was coming. Warren also had a long affair with another woman that he forgot to mention to the Republican convention that nominated inm. The Republicans gave her enough money to leave the country

for four years.
As president, Warren spent a lot of time playing golf and poker with his

MEANWHILE

friends — and smuggling Nan into the White House.

But no one noticed, because the country was prosperous. And Warren had assembled a pretty good cabinet. which helped to deflect attention from his own nonperformance.

Warren once said he had no interest in that "Europe stuff." He was more interested in giving jobs to the cronies he brought with him from Ohio notably a shyster named Harry Daugherty, whom he made attorney general. Then Warren learned that Harry and his other poker-playing pals were stealing tons of money from the govern-

of the malefactors committed suicide. Warren embarked on a speaking tour to prove how much the people loved him. He traveled the country to great fanfare, talking about America and

prosperity and normalcy Warren decided to visit Alaska, perhaps because it was as far away as he could get from the stench that was rising in Washington. En route, he was stricken with a heart attack, and died.

The American people were grief-stricken. Mournful crowds jammed the railroad stations as Warren's body was returned to Washington. One newspaper called him "the greatest com-moner since Lincoln." Another said Warren was "an ideal American."

Florence burned every scrap of official paper she could get her hands on while Warren was being mourned and buried. But it didn't do much good, Within a few months, members of Warren's administration were under indictment on corruption charges.

Most historians now rank Warren as among the worst presidents ever. But there is always room at the bot-

The writer, a historian, contributed Secret Service agents were posted to ment. He didn't know what to do. Two this comment to The New York Times.

the value-added will once again be vice their debts and banks will, once again to the city would lose the banks will, once again to the city would lose the banks will, once again to the city would lose the banks will, once again to the New York extracted to the New York extracted to the New York extracted by the property of the New York extracted by the New banks will, once again vitality and manic energy. New York is the beneficiary in Acia. in Asia. In fact, it is the !



True, that's not what I said before, but you know how everything's been changed by El Niño.

Into the Breach

dial ali dectionate we ice, as well as by relationships between the guistic, cultural. leader Macmillan and gal inheritance. - Zinh cemary. now Blast and Clinton. 1153:121 right. a shared Brasherience, a point and by the sew entry into World belated from the

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ACES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS Fever Drops

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

near Telling and Rear Saving the Chinese

Standing should Regarding "A Problem for shoulder his its both Beijing: Should It Stand Up heavest him suggest for Overseas Chinese?" in calcition to the Mineral of the M maneuversold Will athan Mirsky:

Mr. Mirsky's underlying lows for compatible assumption that the Chinese Ineffect Mirability and in Indonesia would expect or Blair do not state thesire

Blair do not smith and plesire assistance from the scale of the war a leging is misconceived.

The scale of the war a leging is misconceived.

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There are indeed.

Clinton's pools. Mon. not homogeneous.

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Controlling the easy of this day to visit China.

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This article notes that whise medianered Reijing rescued endangered Chinese in Indonesia in the perfence. He makes an economist as saying. The possibility of China having the control of the possibility of China having the possibility of China having the control of the possibility of China having the control of the possibility of China having the control of the con use naval forces to protect the verseas Chinese minority of indonesia would represent a major threat to the political

#ability of East Asia." But such a rescue now wedding peak it is the seen as an act to wedding peak it is the seen as an act to wedding peak it is the region. The wording peak it is were to happen, parties desired its peak it is the international combine divorced passes mainty has failed mineral increased. has decided manifest the international com-when divorced has been mainty has failed miserably ried the balls shall be to give this issue the attention ried the has the manifest deserves.

a signify that the many to prive this signify that the many in deserves.

The vorced persons to the serves tha Despite its huge contribuapproved by the Chinese minority in Inthe Chinese minori The authorities have pres-prized Chinese to assimilate and give up their Chinese identity. Yet this has been igp hored even by those countries

> championing peace and anidasal homan rights. Should China fail to act on My widespread attack on the ese in Indonesia, it would only weaken its po-

that have been vehemently

sition as one of the leaders of Third World countries. China would have a moral as well as a humanitarian reason to mount a rescue operation, and this should be understood by

> JOSHUA HONG. Wuppertal, Germany.

Clintons' Legal Woes

Regarding "New Legal Defense Fund Is Set Up for the Clintons" (Feb. 20): Isn't it ironic that the most powerful couple in the United

States, two highly qualified lawyers, might be "impoverished" as a result of having been forced to hire other lawyers to defend themselves against various accusations (true or false)?

And isn't it odd that America should be asked to contribute to the defense of the two people who have the power to enact change in the U.S. legal system?

One of the biggest problems of America is the cost of its legal system. It is unfortunate that we must rely on lawyers to change the system when it is they who are benefiting from it the most.

KIRK NEUREITER. Tokyo.

Even if Bill Clinton is guilty of nothing, there is something fitting about such a staunch opponent of tort reform finding out how it feels to be ensnared in endless lawsuits.

MICHAEL KALK. Sherman Oaks, California.

De Niro and France

Regarding "Angry With Court, De Niro Promises to

Shun France" (Feb. 25): Robert De Niro's reaction to his recent run-in with French justice, in which the actor was questioned in connection with a prostitution

ring, is excessively hostile. If Mr. De Niro refuses to set foot in a country because it has a less than perfect track record, can we assume he will now be avoiding the United States? Or is police harassment and comption not a problem there?

DAVID BORDEAU.

On Thursday, April 30, 1998, to mark the 50th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, the International Herald Tribune will publish a Special Report on

ISRAEL at 50

Y THE TIME people or nations reach the age of 50, there is usually a sense of certainty about them; they have an image of themselves as mature, established, maybe even comfortable. But Israel is very much still a work in progress; a country of extraordinary achievements and unresolved problems; a tiny country that has nevertheless held the world's center stage for all of its turbulent childhood, adolescence and now adulthood.

To take the measure of Israel as it turns 50, the IHT has assembled a distinguished group of journalists, historians and politicians.

Glenn Frankel, the Pulitzer-Prize winning Washington Post correspondent and author of "Beyond the Promised Land," will provide an overview assessment of how much progress Israel has made in resolving the internal contradictions and external challenges that have confronted, and still confront, the Jewish state.

Tom Segev, the Israeli historian, journalist and author of the widely acclaimed history "The Seventh Million," will scan the record of these past 50 years, examining the creation and evolution of the country's identity, the role of Zionism, the conflicts and quests for peace with the Arabs within and outside Israel's borders.

Zeev Chafets, the novelist and popular columnist for the Jerusalem Report, will provide a glimpse into daily life in Israel today.

Josef Joffe, the columnist and Editorial Page Editor of the Suddeutsche Zeitung, and John Goshko, the United Nations correspondent of The Washington Post, will take a look at two of Israel's closest and most interesting relationships; one with Germany and the other with America's Jewish community.

Joseph Fitchett, the IHT's political and security correspondent, will evaluate the regional balance of power in the Middle East and how that might shape Israel's future.

Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, the well-known Arab scholar and author, and president of the Al-Quds University in East Jerusalem, will write about life today and hopes for tomorrow for Palestinians in Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Neal Sandler, an economic correspondent, will examine Israel's evolution from low-tech to high-technology center, looking at the state of its high-tech industries and their overall impact on the economy.

For more information about advertising in this Special Report, please contact Bill Mahder in Paris at (33-1) 41 43 93 78 or fax (33-1) 41 43 92 13 or e-mail: supplements@iht.com.



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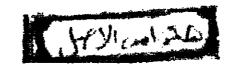


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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL



CLINTON: Jordan Testifies

Mr. McCurry, asked Tuestestimony would help Mr. Clinton, said, "Absolutely."

Because of allegations that Mr. Jordan might have played a role in a cover-up, either wittingly or not, by helping Ms. Lewinsky find a lawyer and line up job interviews, his testimony could be critical to

could "make or break" President Clinton.

"If anybody can hurt Clinton, it is Jordan," the official

Prosecutors, however, were certain to ask about the efforts made by Mr. Jordan, one of the most powerful men in Washington, on behalf of a former intern, and whether there was any connection to an alleged attempt to secure her silence.

Mr. Jordan, 62, has said that he helped Ms. Lewinsky ob-tain three job offers and found an attorney for her. He has denied, through lawyers close to him, having sought to influence her, possibly through the promise of employment, to deny having had a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton in an affidavit for the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against the president.

He has also said that both Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky had told him that they had not had a sexual relationship.

One explanation that Mr. Jordan might offer for helping Ms. Lewinsky, who left the White House in April 1996 to take a low-ranking job at the Pentagon, was that she was close to a prominent Democratic fund-raiser, Wal-

er, Marcia Lewis, have circumstantial testimony. emerged from the grand jury room looking shaky or distressed, Mr. Jordan was ex- friends. The two have known pected to make a formidable, each other since the 1970s.

jury-savvy witness. As the former president of the National Urban League, a Monday that there had been civil-rights group, and of the any rupture of the relation-United Negro College Fund, ship over the Lewinsky case, he is one of the best-known They "remain good friends," and most widely respected black figures in the United most prominent attorneys and lobbyists in Washington, and phone, reports say. sits on the boards of such maior corporations as Dow

Jones and Revion. Mr. Jordan, in his only pubvowed Jan. 22 to say "direct-ly, completely and truthfully" what he knew about the matter, Mr. Hundley said Tuesday of invoking his constitutional that she denied it.

Continued from Page 1 right to avoid self-incrimination by refusing to testify.

Meanwhile, another Clinday whether Mr. Jordan's ton confidant, Bruce Lindsey. the deputy White House counsel, and the president's personal secretary, Betty Currie, were expected to be called back for new appearances before the grand jury as early as Thursday, It was Mrs. Currie who asked Mr. Jordan to help Ms. Lewinsky find a job. Mr. Starr, seeking to build

Mr. Starr's inquiry.

One administration official

Mr. Starr, seeking to build a mountain of evidence from told The Associated Press the bottom up, began his inthat Mr. lordan's testimony quiry by summoning lowranking former interns and White House staff before calling, more recently, such top White House aides as Mr. Lindsey, John Podesta and Sidney Blumenthal.

Mr. Jordan could provide the testimony Mr. Start needs to tie a case together. On the other hand, if Mr. Jordan denies any knowing attempt to influence Ms. Lewinsky's testimony, prosecutors would face a much more difficult

On Sunday, Ms. Lewin-sky's attorney, William Gins-burg, made the plainest statement to date that there had been no sexual relationship between his client and Mr. Clinton. He had said previously that she stood by the affidavit in which she denied such a relationship.

Mr. Ginsburg said Monday that his client had been alone with the president in the Oval Office a few times, but added, "Being alone doesn't mean they had a relationship."

White House records show Ms. Lewinsky visited the White House 37 times after leaving in April 1996. It is not clear whether she saw the president on each of those visits.

If Ms. Lewinsky, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Jordan all deny While some witnesses, no- any wrongdoing, Mr. Starr's tably Ms. Lewinsky's moth- case would appear to rely on

Mr. Jordan has long been one of Mr. Clinton's closest

Mr. McCurry, the White House spokesman, denied They "remain good friends,"

In all, Mr. Jordan met with States. He is also one of the Ms. Lewinsky four times and spoke to her seven times by

On Dec. 19, she met with Mr. Jordan at his office and told him she had been subpoenaed to provide an affilic statement so far in the case, davir in the Jones case. Law-New York Times that at that meeting he asked her whether she had had a sexual relathat his client had no intention tionship with Mr. Clinton and

GATES: Defending Microsoft

banking, newspapers, cable, and broadcasting, Internet service providers, applications, databases, browsers. you name it," he said.

Sun has developed a programming language called Java, which is meant to allow many different kinds of computers to interact with the Inlemer, a potential threat to the dominance of the Windows

James Barksdale, president of Netscape Communications Corp., said: "I and many others have become increasingly concerned that Microsoft's abuse of its monopoly power. unless addressed through enforcement of our anti-trust laws, will adversely affect the course of American commerce and communications

in the information age." He added, "It appears Mi-crosoft's ultimate goal in its competitive Internet products Navigator, the most popular browser for the World Wide Web section of the Internet. but its dominance has been eroded by Microsoft's Internet Explorer, which the company is integrating with Windows.

is to be to

The rare Washington appearance by Mr. Gates drew extraordinary attention in the United States, where computers, e-mail and the Internet are a way of life. Several cable networks carried the hearing live, and a long line of stretched down the hall of the

Senate Office Building. Mr. Gates said it was "preposterous" to think that any not bundle it with computers One company could ever control access to the Internet. Microsoft does not have monopoly power in the business of developing and li-Censing computer-operating systems," he said.

The committee chairman, Orrin Hatch, closely questioned Mr. Gales. The Utah Republican has been a critic of Microsoft, although in his opening Statement he said the hearing

Continued from Page I trated attack on the company. He did ask Mr. Gates if he

Mr. Gates replied that Windows faced competition from outside the personal-computer industry, citing the network-computer concept sup-ported by Sun and Netscape.

thought Microsoft had a mono-

They and several other companies back these so-called thin clients, which might use a Netscape browser reading documents created in Java that mostly reside on a large server computer. This model of computing reduces the importance of the operating system on the

personal computer Mr. Gates said: "At least outside of this room, Mr. McNealy has a plan to replace PCs. He talks about how fat clients, nobody should buy fat clients, and thin clients will

totally replace PCs."
"He's promoting a vision of computing that is a peracts was not just to market fectly valid thing. This is a competitive business, very but to put Netscape out of and I don't think it's fair to business." Netscape makes just come into this room and say, No, Mr. McNcaly's Java OS has no chance of displacing Windows.

Also appearing on the panel was Michael Dell, chairman of Dell Computer Corp. Staffers of Judiciary Committee members recently called the company and asked if they could buy computers with Netscape's Navigator loaded. They were uniformly told they could not because Dell Computers had to

come with Explorer. Mr. Dell said Netscape was people hoping to get seats available to large customers who requested it but because the program is available for free on the Internet, Dell did

> sold to individual consumers. Mr. Hatch said Microsoft's breathtaking growth" has for many raised serious questions about the future of competition and innovation

in the software industry. Senator Herb Kohl, Democrat of Wisconsin, was more

"Mr. Gates, no one -- no matter how powerful— is above the law," he said. (Reuters, AP, AFP, AFX)



When the chief U.S. represen-tative to the United Nations, Bill Richardson, was asked if the res-

Mr. Jordan, center, making his way past reporters at the courthouse.

IRAQ: U.S. Says UN Gave It a Green Light to Attack

Continued from Page 1

against such action in the reso-

The council's action nevertheless was — as some countries characterized it - a partial disappointment for the Clinton administration. Diplomats from other countries said the United States authorizing military force it Iraq reneges on the inspection agree-ment that the L'N secretary-gen-eral, Kofi Annan, negotiated in Paulded with Pauldent Soddom Baghdad with President Saddam

olution allows a U.S. attack, he replied: "The answer is yes. And we already had that green light." The resolution is drafted so it is perfectly clear that any member state can take unilateral action if it

feels there is a grievous viola-tion," he said.

The French Foreign Ministry's econd-ranking official, Bertrand Dufourcy, flew to Baghdad on

Tuesday for a three-day visit with officials, including Mr. Saddam.

The visit "will underline the importance that France attaches to the complete and rapid application

spokesman said.

■ Invitation by Annan

Barbara Crossette of The New York Times reported: Mr. Annan, opening a new channel of dialogue with Iraq on Tuesday, invited its foreign minister to New York to talk about program that allows them to sell limited quantities of oil to buy

food and medicines. Discussions about the oil-forfood program have normally been conducted by lower-level officials and in Baghdad.

Foreign Minister Sahhaf could arrive as early as next week. shortly before the United Nations sends a team of experts to Iraq to assess the country's ability to rump and export more oil.

The Security Council agreed last month to allow Iraq to sell \$5.2 billion worth of oil every six months, but Iraq says that it can produce only \$4 billion worth and wants money to repair equipment.

Iraq has also complained that the United Nations is meddling with Iraqi prerogatives in some of the plans it has drawn up for an

enlarged oil-for-food plan. All imports supervised by the sein's most sensitive properties.

of the accord," the ministry's United Nations and improvements in the country are intended to relieve the suffering of Iraqis who have lived under sanctions for more than seven years. The eco-

nomic sanctions were imposed in 1991 after the Gulf War. Mr. Annan's willingness to hear out Iraq's many grievances about UN programs is a departure. Earliwould have preferred language problems the Iraqis have with the er, the Security Council, led by the United States, isolated Iraq as much as possible, demanding that Baghdad abide by the rules and not

try to change them. The secretary-general, taking a different line, has spoken of the need not to humiliate Iraq but to draw the country back into the

community of nations. His comments at the United Nations and in Baghdad about understanding and respecting the Iraqis are at considerable variance with the language often used in

Washington. Iraq must be certified free of all weapons of mass destruction before the sanctions can be lifted. Even then, true will be subject to extensive monitoring. Over the last year, however, Iraq has experimented with a variety of tactics to evade the inspection system that is closing in on some of Mr. Hus-

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By Sheridan Morley International Herald Tribune

ONDON - The Royal Court Theatre, though still several months away from returning to its Sloane Square home, has managed in exile around St. Martin's Lane to fill two and sometimes three small stages with some immensely impressive work, but nothing better than "The Weir," which comes to the Duke of Yorks after a brief outing last

In the dramatist Conor McPherson, we have yet another of the young Irish brigade that has lately colonized the London stage, but what sets him apart is a unique gift for monologue. His "St. Nicholas" a few seasons ago at the Bush gave us a drunken drama critic (as if such characters exist) who falls in with a group of South London vampires. It was somewhere between a ghost story and a shaggy dog story, but one of

regular hard drinkers, each with a ghostly tale to tell to the girl from Dublin who has just bought a house in the village until, inevitably, she tops them all with her own truly terrible personal story. So we have moved on a little,

from monologue to duologue.

McPherson's point here, it seems to
me, is that the men can only overcome their sense of loss and failure by spinning these yarns, each of them just safely on the side of plausibility. What they are doing is essentially mythmaking, whereas what the girl finally offers is a slice of real, brutal if accidental life - the death of a beloved little daughter in a drowning accident.

Suddenly the men's tales are made to seem theatrical, if not downright phony. They are admirable barroom storytellers but the stories have been told for so long. from generation to generation, that they have lost all reality. Whereas the out-

remarkable poerry and potency. This sider the one who has kept so demurely time, in "The Weir," he gives us four quiet as they told their oft-told tales, is the only one of them truly possessed by a ghost, and in that realization all the men seem almost to crumble as they go out to face the midnight air. What has held them together has been a fantasy. and now, suddenly, they have been faced with a reality, that the su-pernatural can and does still ex-

> lan Rickson's production is a master class in how to keep a fundamentally very static and talky play alive and moving, while the performances of Julia Ford and of Jim Norton and Des

> McAleer as two of the male, regulars. resonate with suppressed passion and lost hopes. Meanwhile at the Ambassadors,

> Nancy Meckler's Shared Experience company has come in with "I Am a play by the Canadian dramatist Judith Thompson which has

lieve that we are still not seeing nearly enough contemporary Canadian or Australian drama in this country, "I Am Yours' does not make my case any easier. This co-production with the

Royal Court is a rambling, enigmatic family drama cut up into 36 scenes, across which we come to TER learn of a couple of dysfunctional sisters and the boyfriends they collect along the way. But this remains really a play about the past, a kind of familial guilt hangs listlessly over the sisters.

The admirably literary Meckler has directed as though this were some vast novel of a bygone era in which very little happens with immense elegance.

The trouble is that it's not, rather it is a contemporary piece about the horrors facing unloved one-parent mothers, and the general air of drift and despair that would seem to characterize suburban

taken more than a decade to cross the Atlantic. And although I fervently beplays than this hovering around the Toronto fringe, and it would be good to have a look at one that did not so de-terminedly resemble a daytime soap for the emotionally disenfranchised. In a cast of six, not one makes us really care what happens to them, and one ends up wishing they would cease dumping their long leftover teenage anxieties about sex and marriage on us.

Both these plays are well within the Royal Court's brief for discovering challenging new writing. But what makes "The Weir" so much better than "I Am Yours" is its urgent willinguess to draw us into the charmed circle by the pub fireside, whereas the other play holds us at arm's length. There is a deliberate lack of involvement here, and it spreads like a forest fire. At the end of the evening, one is left idly wondering what would be the hourly rate for a family therapist who



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Page 19

A scene from "I Am Yours."

Trilok Gurtu: No Written Notes, Please Indian Percussionist Prefers Leaning on the Spirit of Music

By Mike Zwerin nional Herald Tribune

ARIS — Coming from the Indian improvising tradition. percussionist Trilok Gurtu gets impatient with Western musicians referring to written music on stage when they do not really need it. It's an ego trip, an adver-tisement of their own literacy perhaps, a crutch; it means they are likely to lean on intellect rather than the spirit. Whatever, he tells his musi-

cians: "No paper, please,"
On stage once, he looked over and every last one of them had stands with written music in front of them. And nobody, not one, was looking at it. So he surreptitiously turned the pages upside down and shuffled their order.

"And you know what?" he exclaims with his pixyish smile: "My God! Those guys didn't even notice, man.

This month, Gurtu is releasing "The Glimpse" (Escapade), a new album, He wants listeners at least to glimpse his new fusion between Indian tradition and cutting-edge pop music.

"People are asking me," he says, with his lilting southern Indian English. " 'Are you try-ing to be commercial'?"

Gurtu is balancing on the balls of his feet and speaking urgently as though his life depended on it. Youngsters of Asian descent in London, who make techno or jungle music or bass and drums or however you call the latest club rage there, have recently begun to sample Gurtu's albums — in effect stealing passages --- for records of their own. So Gurtu

of contemporary mixes. proud. When I go there now, they know me in London. Of course it took 15 years, but never mind. They are my promoters. They go and talk about me in their magazines. It even gets back to India from London. They make my music more accessible. So finally I thought: 'Why don't I do this myself?""

1970s with the late pocket trumpeter and "world a particularly fortuitous time to take it a step further since "everybody is using '70s elements, like Fender Rhodes pianos. They are all going back there,'

"Ganapati," the first track on "The Glimpse," is dedicated to Cherry, whose pop star daughter Neneh Cherry sings it. (The album is, he says, 'vocally based." His mother Shobha Gurtu sings on it. She is an "Indian diva . . . a superstar in my

The big difference is that whereas Indian music has influenced the leading jazz musicians of our



is suddenly in the front of a lot Percussionist Gurtu: "I have a voice, I have a sound, I am not imitating.

He's "so happy. They do not pay but I am time like Cherry and John Coltrane, Gurtu is God in India, was a drummer." basically coming at it from the opposite direction, a less-traveled road - adding jazz grammar to Indian music. His use of unusual instruments like the sitar, ganawa, harmonium and kaval puts a performed with Jack DeJohnette, who calls him

fresh face on everything. Fresh faces in pop music are rare. "Nothing fresh is happening today," he says. "Everything is to be quite happy to be able to say that "except for Actually, he had already done it back in the a bit stagnant." As he speaks, Gurtu begins to move one, all my students have left me. his upper body like a prizefighter, like the agile 1970s with the late pocket trumpeter and "world his upper body like a prizefighter, like the agile "I'm not interested in just any one who appears griot" Don Cherry, ex-Omette Coleman. Now is percussionist he is. It's a conversational equivalent at my door with \$100. They have to love and be to his habitual dance around his wide-open intercultural instrumental spread that includes a conga drum, temple blocks, an Indian dhol drum, high-hat cymbals, a Buddy Rich crash cymbal, African

cowbells, tuned pans and an Italian birdcall.
"Everybody," he continues, "in pop and jazz alike, is taking from here and from there. I am voice, I have a sound. I am not imitating."

Gurtu lives in Hamburg and is increasingly busy concertizing between London, New York, Americans do not welcome jazz from abroad (like it or not, that is how he is classified). But the audiences are enthusiastic now and he loves them. He has performed with Carlos Santana, Bill Laswell and with the dancer Carolyn Carlson; minimalist composer Terry Riley is writing a piece for him.

to break into New York. The

"The Glimpse" features rock guitar hero Steve Lukather, of Toto fame. Gurtu had sent him a work tape. Gurtu wanted a Slashy rock sound. It was difficult music, in 7/4 time. But he told Lukather to make it sound easy, always like a 4/4.

Modern musicians from Cuba have said that they avoid certain passages that have religious or deeply traditional origins because some people might consider it heresy. Gurtu confirms that there are also some cases like that with Indian music: "But in general, I think one has to do what the music requires. A composer composes music to make a certain statement. If I think I better not play that because the Indians will kill me or something, then the music is going to be lost. So I do it for the music. If I'm honest, nobody is going to punish me. If I'm dishonest, then I will pay for it."

He thinks about that, and then continues: "Music is all one. It cannot be separated. Southern Indian music is funky and close to Cuban music. Jazz is close to both of them. Brazilian music is close to African music. The geography in each place may vary and the sun may shine more here than there. And everybody has different dances. But they all have a groove. Shiva, our supreme

You might imagine that there are plenty of eager young students and musicologists who want to learn how to sift through Gurtu's rich experience. He has Pasha." as well as the world fusion group Oregon,

serious about music. These young people today are in need of education. You know, even my one student argues a lot with me.

"They think they know it all. Michael Jackson sang this song from the Beatles. You know, "Come Together." The kids don't know that the Beatles wrote that. But I tell them: 'It was Lennon and remaining what I am with this record. I have a McCartney. They do not want to hear about it; they think the Beatles are for old people. But you should know what the face of the original is before you make your own version of it. First of all you must Bombay and Buenos Aires. It was tough for him clear the past. This is what I learned in India."

An International Star Sets Sights on the U.S.

By Elisabetta Povoledo New York Times Service

NVERIGO, Italy - When Eros Ramazzotti was born, his father, an aspiring singer whose own dreams of stardom never materialized, named him after the Greek god of love. He thought the name would bring his son good luck.

Thirty-four years and 25 million records later, Ramazzotti is a pop superstar in Europe and Central and South America.

Now he has set his sights on the United States, where he hopes to make the kind of mainstream breakthrough that no other Italian pop singer has achieved. In most cases language has been a barrier, and Ramazzotti, who speaks little English, knows it won't be any

less the case for him.
"I think I'll have success with the Italo-Americans, but with Americans who don't speak Italian, well, I just don't know," Ramazzotti, handsome in a teenage heartthrob kind of way, said recently at his villa in this picturesque village north of Milan. "But, I've always felt it's important to grow. You should never feel as though you've arrived."

On Friday, he opens the North American leg of his world tour with a performance at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. The tour is to promote his ninth album, "Eros," which has sold nearly four million copies since its release last October. Most of the album's 16 songs love ballads, in the main - are rerecordings of previous hits, but the new versions are more sophisticated, the arrangements more com-

sicians, a sort of Who's Who of studio recording artists. The result is a more polished, better produced record than Ramazzotti's

In his push for a wider audience, Ramazzotti is scheduled to make the rounds of American television with Turner, ranging from "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno" and "Good Morning, America" to major Hispanic television and radio shows.

Ramazzotti has been singing in both Italian and Spanish since 1988, and his label, BMG. hopes to capitalize on his bilingual ability to articulate the language of the heart.

The Latino market is the fastest-growing market in the United States," said Heinz Henn, senior vice president for artists and repertory and marketing for BMG International in New York. "Latino artists sell enormous numbers, and at the same time more and more are crossing over. We have high expectations from Eros and are promoting him so heavily. A full attack on all fronts.'

According to BMG, Ramazzotti's previous album — released in Italian as "Dov'e c'e Musica" ("Where There Is Music") and in Spanish as "Donde Hay Musica" - sold more than six million copies worldwide, 500,000 in the United States alone.

But Ramazzotti isn't the first Italian pop act first rock groups, PFM, a band inspired by his popularity has become international.

Genesis, achieved limited success when it toured college campuses in the early 1970s.

For the last five years or so, the singer Zucchero, who is known as the Italian Joe

Cocker, has performed frequently in America with little or no recognition. In 1991, when Ramazzotti first played at Radio City Music Hall, he was disappointed to find that his audience was mainly Italian-American.

"Some artists try hard to get out of the whole Italo-American thing," explained Ezio Guaitamacchi, editor of the monthly Italian music magazine Jam. "But it never really happens. You can be No. 1 in Italy, but in the States you're still a complete unknown outside the Italo-American community.

The only Italian pop singer who has made a dent in the American music scene is Andrea Bocelli. But Bocelli's background is classical music, and his best-selling album, "Romanza," which has sold 620,000 copies in the United States, alternates between operatic arias and ballads of the most Mediterranean kind.

Bocelli and Ramazzotti may be at opposite ends of the music spectrum, but they join forces on "Musica E" ("Music Is"), a nine-minute ballad on "Eros" that gives full vent to Ramazzotti's lyricism.

He and his record company have reason to be optimistic about his chances in America. They point to the success of performers like Gloria Estefan, Ricky Martin, Enrique Iglesias, Luis Miguel and Selena, all of whom have had hits sung in Spanish, as an indication of the growing acceptance by Americans of performers singing in a foreign language.

plex, reflecting a growing manurity.

The collaborations with Bocelli and Turner
A duet with Tina Turner, "Cosas de la can also only help to raise Ramazzotti s profile Vida" ("Things of Life"), intertwines in the United States among mainstream listen-Ramazzotti's characteristically nasal inflecers. The song with Turner indicates how his tion with Turner's big, bawdy voice, rework- music is being tailored for an American audiing an already raunchy song into an even more ence. Not only is it sung in English and Spangregarious dance number. The remixed al. ish, but the studio musicians who collaborated burn, the second to be produced by the singer, on it include the drummer Vinnie Colaiuta, a brought in many accomplished American muscians, a sort of Who's Who of studio rewho works with Pink Floyd, Quincy Jones and Celine Dion, and vocalists like Jim Gilstrap, Alex Brown and Phillip Ingram, who have backed up Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Michael Bolton, Elton John and Natalie Cole.

"The American sound suits my music well," he said. "The result is a more international record. We live in a world where fusion is important." The video was directed by Nigel Dick, who has worked with the Cult, Paul McCartney and Guns N' Roses.

EING darkly handsome won't hurt his chances with American audiences either; nor will his rags-toriches life. Reared in the tough Roman neighborhood of Cinecitta, Ramazzotti was pushed into show business by his father, a house painter. At 7, Ramazzotti began to play the guitar. (He now owns more than 70.)

Turned down at the Roman Music Conservatory because he lacked the necessary musical background, he worked at a series of jobs - bartender, house painter, bricklayer - until his father signed him up for a music competition. Success came in 1984 when he sang at the San Remo Festival of Italian Song, a pop-music competition that annually earns the highest ratings among Italian television viewers. Two years later, at 22, he won the to try to make it in America. One of Italy's festival and became an instant star. Since then,

Milan Fashion: Prada's Running Backward Toward the Future



Missoni's lettered sweater.

By Suzy Menkes tional Herald Tribune

ILAN — Just when you thought fashion was coming up roses, here comes Prada to ruin the romance. Short sharp shapes, graphic lines and curved seams gave Miuccia Prada's new fall collection a stark geometry in contrast to the feminine lightness, languid softness, long hemlines and sweet embroideries on other runways. But then Prada has been there, done that.

The new show was strong, a little weird and provocative, with its interplay of plastic plaques and dresses broken up with slotted seams. It was also resolutely modern. But here is the conundrum: Why do all roads forward lead back to earlier fashion futurists?

"I was trying to make something orgamic with movement," said Prada, to explain the loose panels flying from short pleated skirts and plastic decoration moving like articulated scales. Think Pierre Cardin and Paco Rabanne in the 1960s.

The stark white dresses, some with off-white boots, were rooted in the Courreges era. Even the shiny shoes with concave heels — projected on the wall as they walked the runway — had bicolor Op Art effects.

Yet the silhouette had been redrawn for 1998 using both compass and square, so that linear dresses might have an arc of seam. The focus was on skirts and dresses worn with coats, putting iackets in the shade and marginalizing pants, which is a significant shift from all the avant-garde designers.
The point of Prada's show was to find

a modern way to decorate minimalist clothes, by using fabrics with surface interest, like felted wools or astrakhan. Or to add high-tech highlights: a grid pressed into the fabrics with an industrial iron, or slithers of clear plastic appliquéd like Band-Aids.

As ever, the Prada show was un-expected, original and gave the impression of being either out on a limb - or way ahead of the game.

The danger is that this kind of artsy, intellectually challenging fashion is too confusing for folk just looking for clothes the women who will turn to MaxMara for a nice soothing coat in quality fabric, pared down with a sleek fly-front fastening and industrially fused seams. MaxMara did a good job of turning

minimalism into user-friendly clothes.

Looking for a new-generation pantsuit?

Then try narrow trousers with a fluffy

mohair tank top or a camel-hair T-shirt

fronted in sheared mink. Need a new

ing with color and pattern, subduing the rainbow hues to the blues of an oil slick or the greens and russets of camouflage. Another novelty was to cut around the camouflage to create an airy mesh. Yet Missoni's sportswear theme,

which should have been central, never quite ripened. There were strong individual pieces like zippered cardigans, boucié coats, nylon parachute pants with a knitted stripe in the zippered sides and a polo shirt elongated to a dress, Maybe it was the high-heel shoes and the parade of skinny knitted evening dresses. lighted with pin-prick beads,

kimono seaming, giving a snug shoulder and flat sleeve to to coats and

jackets, will be an important change in

mainstream tailoring.
In spite of quoting Dada as the in-

spiration for its new alphabet-soup logo,

Missoni struck the right note between

art and craft. The tumbled letters,

spelling out the company name in Lurex

stitches, decorated the dresses and

sweaters. A cute new wrapped-and-

OW that Angela Missoni is at

the helm, she is experiment-

knife-pleated knit skirt looked fresh.

skirt? There is a box-pleated version that made the collection seem too ladythat will be kind to your hips. The like and lowered the energy level.

When fashion folk talk about "in-tellectual" clothes they think of the Japanese designers like Yohji Yamamoto. Comme des Garcons and Junya Watanabe. Gianfranco Ferre certainly did, and it was dispiriting to see a designer of his stature so blatantly pla-giarize others to give his secondary GFF line a borrowed "edge."

Showing in a cavernous warehouse, with models first lined up in black shrouds to ping-and-gong Japanese music; then re-creating a famous living Penn image of models on a ladder, Ferre's show spelled Art with a capital 'A." But any fashion follower could have recognized nail-studded suits, wadded white skirts and even cloche hats from Japanese designer runways. A few experiments with high-tech fabrics seemed like Ferre's own work.

In a fashion city where there are more followers than leaders, it was refreshing to see Stephan Janson do his own individual thing, which is conture-in-spired clothes like kimono-cut coats in double-face fabrics and tweed and velvet fancied up with feathers. He has been tapped to design for Emilio Pucci, whose signature prints are in search of a modern silhouette.



Prada's rectangular dress.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1998

Firms Trade Barbs Over **Takeover**

Computer Sciences Tries To Fight \$9.8 Billion Bid

> By Mitchell Martin nternational Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Charles Wang, the chairman of Computer Associates In-ternational Inc., wonders why Com-puter Sciences Corp. will not ask its stockholders if they want to sell him

"Just put it to the shareholders and let them decide. If they don't want Computer Associates and myself, they'll say go away and they'll reject it,'' he said in n interview, referring to his company's \$9.8 billion takeover offer.

Computer Associates, which creates software for businesses, wants to expand into services by purchasing Computer Sciences, which helps companies integrate computers into their operations. To get into the business, Computer

Associates is offering a substantial premium to Computer Sciences shareholders. Computer Sciences shares were trading in the low \$80s when Computer Associates approached it in December, and they closed at \$88.50 on Feb. 9, the day before the \$108-per-share offer was made public. Computer Sciences shares closed Tuesday down 93.75 cents at

For Computer Sciences, the issue is not simply money on the table, said Bruce Plowman, a spokesman for the company, which is incorporated in Nevada. Mr. Plowman said the offer was not in the best interests of other interested parties, including employees, suppliers and creditors.

Under Nevada law, the directors' decision involves consideration of the interest of the corporation's employees, suppliers, creditors and customers and the long-term as well as the short-term interests of the corporation and its stockholders, including the possibility that these interests may best be served by the continued independence of the corporation," Mr. Plowman said.

There is some support for his contention that a takeover by Computer Associates, known as an aggressive buyer and consolidator of other software companies would be bad for interested parties in Computer Sciences other than its shareholders.

Allie Young, an analyst at Dataquest Worldwide Services, said at the time of the bid that the offer did not make sense from the target's point of view, except for the premium paid to the shareholders. She said it that if the company were to be another services company to buy it.

Mr. Plowman noted that its official rejection of the tender offer, filed Monday, held out the possibility that Computer Sciences would negotiate with another buyer. He also said that the company felt rushed by a "false sense of urgency" in the Computer Associates approach and that the board might later

be willing to negotiate at a higher price.

Documents supporting a higher price are to be released Wednesday, he said. Mr. Wang said Van Honeycutt, Computer Science's chief, originally had wanted more money than the \$100 per share that Mr. Wang and Sanjay Kumar,

See WANG, Page 19

tax-exempt" status for the deal.

Cross Rates

DEARBORN, Michigan — Ford Motor Co. said Tuesday it would record a \$16.5 billion gain from the spin-off of its

consumer finance unit after learning that it would receive

Ford bought Associates First Capital Corp. in May 1989 for \$3.35 billion and sold 19.3 percent of it to the public in 1996.

It is spinning off its remaining interest so it can concentrate on automaking, while giving Associates more flexibility to sell stock and acquire companies.

tober, reflecting the unit's appreciating stock price.

Ford valued its stake in the unit at \$22.7 billion - \$4.7 billion higher than when the spin-off was presented in Oc-

Associates, based in Dallas, closed at \$64 on Oct. 8, when

Ford announced the spin-off. The stock rose 50 cents to



SILVER STANDARD — Rolls-Royce's Silver Seraph making its debut Monday at the Geneva Car Show. The new model replaces the Silver Spirit, introduced in 1980. More news on the show, Page 17.

WALL STREET WATCH

Missteps Chip Away at Motorola Image

By Barnaby J. Feder New York Times Service

As the U.S. wireless communications industry transforms itself from analog to digital technology, Motorola Inc., whose reputation for innovation, high-quality products and smart strategic thinking flourished in the early 1990s, has looked surprisingly clumsy at times.

The latest embarrassment stemmed from reports last week of a falling out with Primeco Personal Communications LP, which has a \$500 million contract with Motorola to belp build a na-

tionwide digital wireless phone system. Primeco has apparently become so annoyed with disruptions in service that it is planning to cancel the contract and perhaps take the drastic step of ripping out equipment already purchased.

Analysts say the direct impact of ending the Primeco relationship would be nimal; Motorola had nearly \$30 billion in annual sales last year. But the news certainly does not help a corporate image tamished by several missteps in new markets in recent years, missteps that make analysts worry that other customers may become more hesitant to sign

major new contracts with Motorola. Making matters worse. Motorola is also confronted with some challenges beyond its control. The biggest is the isis in Asia percent of its revenue last year.

No wonder Motorola, the semiconductor and telecommunications giant based in Schaumburg, Illinois, has Wall Street anxiously wondering how the company will regain the momentum that made it so popular among investors in the early 1990s.

"The range of earnings projections for Motorola this year and next is wider than usual," said Charles Hill, director of research at First Call Corp., which mon-itors reports from 29 analysts at brokerage firms that follow the company.

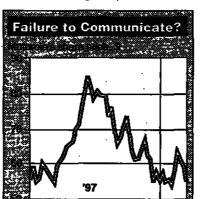
Nine of those analysts have strong "buy" recommendations on the stock, but one has an outright "sell" recommendation - rare for Wall Street - and

Spin-Off Gives Ford Huge No-Tax Gain

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

still quite conservative.

as a tax-free transaction.



12 others list Motorola as a "hold." For many, the biggest uncertainty comes from the same questions hanging over much of American industry: How deep will Asia's financial woes get and

how long will they persist?
Asia affects Motorola in two ways Demand for semiconductors and other key products has weakened during the months of financial turmoil in the East Asia. Telephone companies in struggling nations like Indonesia have put big-ticket contracts for new cellular telephone network equipment on hold.

Asian mar products like cellular phones are likely to be tougher competitors, if they are based in countries like South Korea where the local currency has plummeted in value, giving them a sizable cost advantage.

But Wall Street has also been worried and frustrated — by the ways Motorola has been hurting itself. As the Primeco episode highlights, the biggest such problems at the moment are in wireless communications products.

Much of the luster investors attached to the Motorola name - the stock is still rivaled only by Intel Corp. as a favorite technology holding of investment clubs

— was gained when demand for its pagers soared and its analog cellular technology dominated the market along with

\$81.75 on Tuesday. Ford closed at \$48.25 on Oct. 8 and rose \$1.6875 on Tuesday to \$58.50.

David Healy, a Burnham Securities analyst, said that even

After the spin-off was presented, Standard & Poor's Corp.

though the stock had risen, the valuation on Ford shares "is

downgraded its rating on Ford's senior debt because Ford will be giving up substantial earnings from Associates. But in a note last month, Scott Sprinzen, a debt analyst for S&P, wrote, "Ford's financial flexibility will remain considerable, par-

ticularly in light of its large cash position."

Ford's decision to distribute its 80.7 percent interest, or

279.5 million shares of the finance company, follows an

Internal Revenue Service ruling that the distribution qualifies

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AP)

that of LM Ericsson AB of Sweden. But over the last three years, Mo-torola ranked 97th of the 100 largest publicly traded companies in the total

return it offered its investors. Industrywide downturns in the huge semiconductor business hurt. So did the failure of the Power PC microchip Motorola developed with IBM to grab significant market share in the personal computer busines

The last thing the company needed was another blow to its image as a technology pioneer. But that came last week when Crain's Chicago Business reported that Primeco wanted to cancel its contract and remove Motorola equipment that was already installed.

Last Tuesday, after The Wall Street Journal published additional details, Motorola's shares fell nearly 5 percent, to \$57.625. The share closed Tuesday up 31.25

cents at \$56.25. In July, the shares reached a 52-week high of \$89.9375.

Allegations on 'Mr. Yen' Knock Currency Down

By Sheryl WuDunn

TOKYO—The yen slumped Tuesday as traders worried about the economic impact of corruption accusations leveled against the top Finance Ministry official in charge of international affairs.

The Finance Ministry immediately defended the official, Eisuke Sakakibara, but said it would investigate the allegations. Mr. Sakakibara, who is known as "Mr. Yen" because of the impact his comments often have on the foreign exchange markets, was traveling in Southeast Asia and could not immediately be reached for comment.

The allegations of wrongdoing were made initially in 1991. They resurfaced Tuesday when Shozo Kusakawa, an opposition lawmaker who has raised cases of wrongdoing in the past, accused Mr. Sakakibara, the deputy minister for international affairs, of misbehavior in a series of instances dating back to 1987. Mr. Knsakawa did not present any specific evidence for the charges.

'We will look into the allegations carefully," Finance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga told a budget committee meeting Tuesday in Parliament.

The Finance Ministry has been heavily criticized recently for economic mismanagement and a separate series of scandals in which two officials were arrested on charges of having been entertained by banks they supervised.

Mr. Sakakibara is the most senior official caught in the swirl of attacks against the ministry so far. An articulate spokesman for the ministry and a former teaching fellow at Harvard University, he forged a 1995 arrangement with U.S. Treasury officials to bolster the dollar.

His impact on the markets was felt again Tuesday, as the dollar rose in Tokyo trading to 126.35 yen from 125.61 yen at the close Monday, after reports of the accusations. In late trading in New York, the dollar was at 126.340 yen, up from 125.530 yen on Monday. Mr. Kusakawa accused Mr. Sakakibara of helping a company, which was not identified, win \$1.7 million from Daiwa Securities Co., one of the top Japanese brokerages, in compensation for investment losses. Mr. Kusakawa alleged that Mr. Sakakibara was an acquaintance of the company's president and had been entertained by the com-

1990, and accepted taxi fares worth more than \$300 each time.

There is no evidence so far of any, wrongdoing, and the Finance Ministry said Tuesday it was aware of the matter.

"The Securities Bureau and the sectime, Toshiro Muto, director of the Finance Minister's secretariat and the ministry's second most influential bureaucrat, told Parliament, "Mr. Sakakibara, and the company president were already acquaintances, having met each other, once or twice a year. We know the facts and think there were no problems."

Another senior Finance Ministry of ficial said of the charges: "They have

never been substantiated.' Mr. Sakakibara was criticized last month for saying that Mr. Matsunaga should be allowed time to attend international gatherings like the meeting in London last month of fellow finance ministers of the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations. Some critics took his comments as a slight that suggested that international meetings were more important than the parliamentary sessions in which the budget and other financial bills are being debated.

Mr. Sakakibara also was criticized for saving that the government has shifted from a tight fiscal policy as early as December, when it announced a 2 trillion yen tax cut and a 30 trillion yen bank bailout package. His comments came as Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and other senior government and Liberal Democratic Party officials were saying there would be no change in

economic policy.

The Finance Ministry publicly apologized for Mr. Sakakibara's policy remarks, and Mr. Matsunaga issued a warning to the deputy minister that many construed as an official reprimand.

■ Japan Ready to Ensure Growth

Mr. Sakakibara said Tuesday that Tokyo was prepared to take fresh measures to ensure growth in the domestic economy and the region. Reuters reported from Kuala Lumpur.

"We have taken necessary measures and continue to address the problem, recognizing that Japan is anchor economy in the region," he said, without providing details.

Mr. Sakakibara is on a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia to discuss how to pany on 15 occasions from 1987 to resolve the regional economic crisis.

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THE AMERICAS

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Very briefly:

- The Federal Trade Commission voted to challenge proposed acquisitions by Cardinal Health Inc. and McKesson Corp. in a bid to prevent the four largest U.S. drug wholesalers from combining. Cardinal plans to acquire Bergen Brunswig Corp. and McKesson plans to acquire AmeriSource Health
- Intel Corp. and NEC Corp. remained the world's No. 1 and No. 2 computer chipmakers in 1997 for the sixth straight year, according to the private research company Dataquest Corp.
- Synergies Energy Development Inc. will invest \$1.4 billion in a hydroelectric project in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.
- Federated Department Stores Inc.'s fourth-quarter earnings rose 11 percent to \$379.1 million on cost cuts amid moderate holiday sales.
- Dayton Hudson Stores Inc.'s fourth-quarter earnings rose 20 percent to \$356 million on a 9.6 percent increase in revenue, to \$8.95 billion.
- Cineplex Odeon Corp.'s fourth-quarter loss before a charge narrowed 85 percent, to \$1.5 million, on a 20 percent increase in revenue, to 146.1 million.
- Host Marriott Corp. posted \$7 million in net income for the fourth quarter, in contrast to a net loss of \$6 million a year

Ward Posts Loss of \$1.16 Billion

CHICAGO - Montgomery Ward & Co. said Tuesday its 1997 loss almost quintupled to \$1.16 billion from a loss of \$237 million as the retail-store chain sought to improve its performance after five months in bankruptcy reorganization. Montgomery Ward Holding Corp., the chain's 125-yearold parent company, filed for Chapter 11 protection from creditors in July amid anemic earnings and dwindling sales.

AMEX

up to the closing on Wall Street.

Dollar Gains Against Yen Amid Inquiry

Compiled by One Staff From Duparties

NEW YORK - The dollar rose against the yen late Tuesday on news that an investigation had been opened into a top Japanese official, but the U.S. currency was mixed against European currencies.
In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar was

at 126.34 yen, compared with 125.530 yen on Monday. It was at 1.8104 Deutsche marks, down from 1.8143 DML

The dollar rose to 1.4687 Swiss francs from 1.4665 francs Monday, but fell to 6.0700 French francs from 6.0837 francs. The pound climbed to \$1.6515 from \$1.6463.

The dollar rose on news that an official investigation had begun into

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Eisuke Sakakibara, the deputy finance minister for international affairs, who has been dubbed "Mr. Yen" for his strong influence on foreign-exchange markets.

Mr. Sakakibara is being inves-

tigated for a 1991 incident — before he was named to his current post in which he allegedly used his in-fluence to force Daiwa Securities Co. to compensate friends for losses in their Daiwa stock account.

"Such a big name makes it a shock," said Marian Bell, an economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland. 'But I don't think one man will make a difference to policy de-

Meanwhile, the mark continued to be supported by Gerhard Schroeder's re-election as prime minister of Lower Saxony. He was nominated Monday by the opposition Social Democratic Party to challenge Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is vying for an unprecedented fifth term as chancellor. Mr. Schroeder is leading opinion polls.

But some investors speculated that the SPD could lose the federal election in September, leaving in place a political deadlock that has held up tax and economic reforms, erument report that people bought traders said.

opinion polls, the figures released these days resemble those four years ago, and in the end the SPD still lost the election. In 1994, the SPD candidate,

Rudolf Scharping, led opinion polls

Greenspan Says Global Reform Under Way

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration and the Federal Reserve chairman, Alan Green- States. span, sought to reassure the U.S. Congress on Tuesday that serious efforts were under way to reform the global financial system.

The Asian economic crisis is not likely to have a large impact on the in replen-U.S. economy, although its effects ishing re-could be amplified without congressional funding for the Inter- the IMF, national Monetary Fund, Mr. the agency Greenspan told the Senate Approprintions Committee.

The Fed chairman said analysts "may well be correct" in their assessment that the effect of the Asian financial crisis on the United States will be small.

At the same time, however, he issued a warning. Mr. Greenspan "There is a small but not negligible probability that the upset in East Asia could have unexpectedly large negative effects the need for quick approval of the on Japan, Latin America and East-full \$18 billion.

em and Central Europe that in turn where, including the United

ury Secretary Robert Rubin appeared before the Senate panel to "In the interest

Fed chief urges U.S. Congress

that the IMF needed additional funds to deal with a "truly major

crisis," and he warned that a failure of Congress to approve the IMF funding request could "shake con-fidence in American leadership." But Senator Mitch McConnell Republican of Kentucky and chairman of the budget panel, disputed

amount needed to create an emergency bailout fund at the IMF -

"In the interest of market staurge approval of \$18 billion as the bility, I think we all need to ex-

> to approve funding for IMF. urge to say

that has taken the lead in dealing with the Asian financial crisis.

Mr. Rubin said in his testimony

Mr. Rubin said in his testimony

Mr. Rubin said in his testimony port should not be delayed while reforms were being developed.

The IMF assembled more than \$100 billion in bailout funds to help Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea after those countries were hit by currency crises last year that have nt their economies into a tailspin. Mr. Rubin said Tuesday that while South Korea and Thailand have made considerable progress

He said he would push for ap- in IMF reforms, "Indonesia is a could have repercussions else- proval of \$3.5 billion now — the very troubling and complicated situation." He hinted that the Fund might not approve Indonesia's next Both Mr. Greenspan and Treas- but would delay approval of the installment in a \$40 billion international loan package due this. 1975 19 12 Total

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In a speech Monday to the In-stitute of International Bankers. Mr. Rubin stressed that U.S. officials, including the Federal Reavoid the serve, were working diligently with the IMF and other countries to

come up with acceptable reforms.
On Tuesday, Mr. Greenspan singled out Japan, saying it bore a special responsibility for aiding Asia by stimulating its own econ-

The Fed chairman said that the "growth of Japan" was "a necessary condition for the stability of

He added that Japan must fix a financial system "bloated" with bad loans, while at the same time stimulating domestic growth.

(AP, Bloomberg)

Outlook for Consumer Spending Lifts Stocks

GE Unit to Cut 1,200 Jobs in Restructuring

General Electric Co. said Tuesday it of about 475 jobs, said Jeff Ig-

would cut about 1,200 jobs in a re-structuring of its GE Power Systems In addition, GE will move its sales

year. GE plans to outsource the Massachusetts, which will result in

NEW YORK - Stocks rose Tuesday, led by retail stores, builders and entertainment companies on optimism that consumer spending will continue to lift corporate profits, but technology shares were off on pessimism about price competition in the industry.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at a record 8,584.83, up 34.38 points, with advancing issues narrowly outnumbering declining ones on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index closed at 1,052.02, up 4.32 points. But the technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite Index fell 1.40 points to 1,757.14.

Homebuilder Kaufman & Broad Home Corp. rose after a U.S. govmore new homes in January than 'Markets were enthusiastic they had during the same month for about Schroeder's nomination, but the past four years. Low interest winning the federal election is a rates are helping people buy homes different story," said Roger Prin- and refinance mortgages, and in-celle of BHF-Bank. "If you look at vestors are buying consumer spending stocks on expectations that they will benefit from that cash.

'After a choppy March we'll still be in a bull market, as first-quarter earnings are likely to come in better than expected, said Stephen in the spring but lost the elections in Dalton, who helps oversee about \$1 (AFP, Bloomberg) billion in stocks as a money man-

ager at CoreStates Investment Advisers Inc. in Philadelphia.

that consumer spending may be

U.S. STOCKS

growing quickly enough to accelerate inflation. That potentially could threaten stocks down the road, because higher interest rates can squeeze corporate profits by raising borrowing costs and rising yields can make bonds more attractive to investors than stocks.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury

SCHENECTADY, New York

structuring of its GE Power Systems

subsidiary, which makes turbines

cent of the unit's work force, are

expected to take place early next

The cuts, which amount to 5 per-

and other power-plant equipment

pushing the yield to 6.07 percent outlook on the industry after hearing from 5.84 percent Monday.

"There are things to worry about in tech land," said Bob Finch, a portfolio manager at Aeltus Investment Management, which oversees about \$40 billion. 'While the Asian markets have

gotten better, the Asian economies still have a couple quarters to work through things, Mr. Finch said.

Dell Computer were among the dethrough things. Merrill Lynch analyst Thomas

bond was down 26/32 at 100 24/32. Kurlak reiterated his pessimistic

parts from its Schenectady plant,

which will result in the elimination

and services operations to Atlanta. About 300 to 350 of the employees in

those departments will be transferred.

GE will also close a factory in

and 100 to 150 could be laid off.

company presentations at Merrill's The government report on January home sales helped push bond ary home sales helped push bond wields to 12 most higher than 12 most higher than 13 most higher than 13 most higher than 13 most higher than 14 most higher than 15 yields to 12-week highs on concern for the year through Thursday, a excess production capacity, inventpace investors say was unsustain- ory reductions by manufacturers able given the economic slowdown that use chips in their products and slowing consumer demand for the products that contain microchips, he said in a report to clients.

The "semiconductor rally is not sustainable," Mr. Kurlak said. "Expect new lows in semiconductor stocks over summer months and into the fall." On Tuesday, Intel and

Amylin Pharmaceuticals shares lost more than half their value after the company announced that Johnson & Johnson was withdrawing from a collaborative agreement to develop a new diabetes drug.

Airline stocks advanced, led by US Airways Group, which rose after the airline's investment rating was raised by an analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. Shares of AMR, parent of American Airlines, and UAL, parent of United Airlines, also gained.

Black & Decker Corp. fell after Newell Co. said it had sold its entire 8.3 percent stake in the toolmaker for about \$395 million as the stock hovered near a record high.
(Bloomberg, NYT)

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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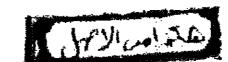
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outlook on the industry had company presentation.

Group to 8.8 percent, from the 8.6 percent it had bought Monday. 07 percent combany breamanns and Act stocks technology conference the 13 percent computer chips are weather hursday, a excess production capacity hursday, a excess production entering insustants only reductions by many showdown that use chips in they proke slowing consumer demand; products that community b Finch & said in a report to client. The semiconductor all, lins lavest and the Mr Kind in th oversees Test new lows in senior arkets have Stocks over summer months. On Tuesday, in CONTRACTOR

Dell Computer were annex; Cts to work. What was how big your checkbook is," said Art. in Pharmaceured M. Thurs Gordon Culfeather, a utilities analyst at Greig Middleton & Co., in Scotland. "This is good news for ...s. mose than half ther valand company amounted to a Energy Group shareholders, but will be Johnson was milder Texas and PacifiCorp should ask if er a collaborative agra-**Auring** develop a new diabetes drig A finder stocks advanced? tady plant. 3.3.4.7.424 Group, which no The last time is universiment than past few years, with big American i (2. septis) an analysia Manilis utility holding companies promi-

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TURES

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STUTTGART -- Porsche AG revised its first-half profit figures Tuesday to show an 82 percent innational lean package de crease, compared with a 69 percent In a speech Monday to be:

increase reported in January. The luxury carmaker said profit rose to 69.7 million Deutsche marks (\$38.7 million) in the six months ended Jan. 31, up from 38.4 million DM a year earlier. Porsche said Jan. 23 that profit was 65 million DM. according to preliminary figures. Porsche also forecast group sales

for the year of more than 4.5 billion marks, based on estimates that the company would produce more than ditional engineers.

PacifiCorp, meanwhile, said it had increased its stake in Energy

The Texas utility's offer of £6.3

billion (\$10.4 billion) in cash and

assumed debt, equivalent to 840

12 hours after the Portland, Oregon-

based PacifiCorp increased its offer

While the contest has lifted the

percent since it began last June, it Monday.

price of Energy Group's stock 54

also has led analysts to question

whether the American companies

are losing sight of the value of the

nent among groups that have bought

out most of the nation's regional

Energy Group came up for grabs

when it was spun off from the old

electric companies.

"It's becoming a battle about

to £6.22 billion.

Texas Utilities Increases Bid

For Britain's Energy Group

LONDON — Texas Utilities Co. ating a new power company that increased its offer for Energy Group was big in both the American eval

PLC and bought almost 14 percent industry and the British electric util-

of the British company's stock Tuesday, pulling ahead of Pacificorp in a struggle for control.

"Tuesday pulling ahead of Pacificorp in a struggle for control."

"Tuesday pulling ahead of Pacificorp in a struggle for control."

"U.S. companies are altracted by

pence a share, came little more than current battle will be the 11th U.S.

38,000 vehicles in the current financial year that ends July 31, 1998.

In a statement issued during the Geneva Car Show, Porsche said sales rose 10.2 percent, to 1.96 billion DM. Porsche sold 14,958 cars, 10.4 percent more than a year earlier.

Porsche said in January that the increases were a result of demand for its convertible Boxster model.

The number of people employed increased by 3.3 percent, to 8,160 at the end of January, because Porselie Japan was incorporated into the group at the beginning of the year and because the firm employed ad-

Hanson PLC conglomerate --- cre-

U.S. companies are attracted by

the prospect of higher returns in the

British energy market, which is less regulated than the American one.

They also may use Britain as a

springboard to buy into Continental

Europe's power industry as it opens

to competition. The victor in the

company to acquire a British utility.

much as 33 pence, or 3.8 percent, to

840.5 pence, before falling back to

838 pence. It closed at 805 pence on

(Bloomherg, AP)

Energy Group shares surged as

Also on Tuesday, Porsche's chief executive, Wendel Wiedeking, said the luxury car maker expected to decide in two weeks whether to build a sports utility vehicle.

port in Automotive News Europe, ciling unnamed sources, which said W12 engine. The car would cost at seal four-wheel drive vehicles. least 80,000 Deutsche marks, Automotive News said.

Wiedeking Porsche is talking to Volkswagen "Porsche will remain a sports car and a foreign carmaker which would maker," he said. help develop the car.

Porsche is one of several European carmakers studying the market for sports utility vehicles.

Analysts say demand for such cars is waning in the United States and Mr. Wiedeking spoke after a re- unlikely to take off in Europe because the cars use too much fuel. Still, Porsche's version is expected to have the ear using Volkswagen AG's provide more performance than typ-

> If Porsche decides not to build the car, it won't go into any other marconfirmed ket segments, Mr. Wiedeking said.



BRANSON TILTS TOWARD TRAINS - Richard Branson, chairman of the Virgin Group, posing Tuesday with a model of a "tilting train" that he plans to introduce on routes bought by Virgin after the privatization of British Rail.

Asia Takes Sparkle Out of De Beers Profit

it's good for their own sharehold- time in three years and that the next two sales of uncut diamonds would Britain's electricity industry has be "severely smaller" than yearbeen a hotbed of merger activity the earlier levels because of weak Asian

> South Africa's fourth-largest company by market value said net income including retained earnings from associated companies dropped to \$1.23 billion, from \$1.34 billion in 1996.

De Beers controls about 70 percent

JOHANNESBURG - De Beers/ monds, and produces about half the Asia faces another difficult year, De Centenary AG, the world's largest diamonds itself. A recession in Japan, diamond producer, said Tuesday along with plunging currencies and that profit fell in 1997 for the first rising interest rates in once fastgrowing smaller Asian countries, is offsetting robust demand in the United States, the biggest market.

De Beers' marketing arm, the London-based Central Selling Organization, conducts 10 sales, known as sights, every year. Sales have fallen for the past five sights as plunging currencies in Asia exacerbate an economic slowdown in Japan.

U.S. demand is expected to remain 98.50 rand (\$19.98), down from 99.

of the world distribution of gem dia- strong, and Europe is improving, but Beers executives said. A strengthening in the ven could improve revenue from Japan, they said.

> out," Nicky Oppenheimer, the at no extra cost. Opel's European chairman, said. The earnings in-market share last year fell 0.4 perclude a one-time charge of \$4 million, which reflects a gain on the sale charge for an anticipated loss from the sale of its stake in Lonrho PLC.

> > Paris

The share price closed Tuesday at

579-1006 \$34,00 \$34,00 \$1,30 \$1,450 \$1,450 \$1,774,50 \$1,773 \$1

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Restructuring Dents Results At GM Europe

Constructivity free Brazies

GENEVA — General Motors Europe reported Tuesday that op-erating profit had fallen 19 percent Porsche has made a decision to build more in common with sports cars and in 1997, to \$824.1 million, as it set aside funds for costs associated with the restructuring of its Opel AG division in Germany.

But pretax profit rose 5.7 percent to \$1.1 billion from \$1.04 billion. Richard Donnelly, the GM unit's president, said at the international car show here.

GM Europe is responsible for cars sold under the names of Opel, Vauxhall and Saab as well as for

GM cars made in North America and sold in Europe. Revenue fell 5.6 percent to

\$24.11 billion. Profit for Opel and Vauxhall slumped to \$47! million from \$778 million due to an exceptional charge of \$488 million for the restructuring of Opel, Mr. Donnelly said.

General Motors also said Tuesday it expects the new version of its Opel/Vauxhall Astra to sell 500,000 units in Europe in 1998. The car is

due to go on sale March 20. GM executives said development of the new Astra, with all its models,

had cost around \$2.3 billion. Company executives said the main thrust of group strategy this year would focus on the successful introduction of the Astra range and

efforts to keep European costs under They did not give specific costsaving targets or comment on pos-

sible redundancies. Opel said it expected better results this year. Last year it posted a net loss of \$17 million as it paid to trim the work force and to introduce the revamped Astra.

Europe's second-largest car-maker after Volkswagen AG is cutting costs and streamlining produc-tion as it loses ground in the Continent's sluggish market. Such rivals as Volkswagen AG and nue from Japan, they said. Renault are bringing out more new models faster and leading a price take a view on how the year will turn war aimed at adding options to cars market share last year fell 0.4 per-centage points to 11.6 percent.

'We've had 100,000 new orders. of shares in JCI Ltd. offset by a 50,000 in Germany, in less than one month," for the revamped Astra. said David Herman, the Opel chief executive, at the car show.

(AFP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

Investor's Europe Frankfurt Paris London **CAC 40** FTSE 100 Index DAX 33-0 700 3500 337 550 42534 30.00 4200 2500 5100 375 2:1 -200 EEO ON D OND JFM 1997 1998 JFM 1998 1997 1998 Exchange Prev. Tuesday Index Change Close AEX 1,079,27 1,089.71 -0.96 Amsterdam 2,741.28 2,749.39 Brussels BEL-20 DAX 4,757.14 4,736.74 Frankfurt Copenhagen 702.09 697.90 +0.60 Stock Market Helsinki HEX General 4,111.34 4,160.81 -1.19 Osio OBX 701.87 697.78 +0.59 London **FTSE 100** 5,807.70 5,820.60 Madrid Stock Exchange 793.72 792.46 +0.16 Milan MIBTEL 20504 20383 +0.59 3,414,87 3,446,70 Paris **CAC 40** -0.92 3,660.12 3,707.54 -1.28 Stockholm SX 16 1,425.78 1,415.87 +0.70 ATX Vienna

Very briefly:

SPI

Zurich

Source Televuis

 The German Cartel Office approved allowing customers of the country's five largest publicly traded banks to use automated cash machines at any of the banks — Deutsche Bank AG, Dresdner Bank AG, Commerzbank AG, Bayerische Vereinsbank AG and Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechsel-Bank AG --- without charge.

4,481.72 4,489.18 -0.17

 Romania's Senate approved legislation on bank bank-raptoies, a move demanded by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, Moody's Investors Service Inc. declared the credit outlook for Romania's banking system poor, saying banks were struggling with a weak economy, asset quality problems and government ownership.

 France's aerospace industry said sales rose 19.4 percent, to a record 130.2 billion francs (\$21.5 billion), as a surge in exports and a stronger dollar countered a decline in state spending. Electricite de France's pretax profit rose 20 percent in 1997, to 7.1 billion francs, but net profit fell 21 percent, to 1.5 billion francs, as the company paid taxes for the first time. A price cut reduced sales by 2 percent, to 186.5 billion francs.

• Credit Agricole d'Ile-de-France's 1997 profit rose 25 percent, to 381.7 million francs, from 1996 as the Paris region arm of Credit Agricole reduced charges for bad loans by a third, to 478 million francs. Belgium's unemployment rate fell to 12.9 percent in February from 13.1 percent in January, according to the government. The jobless rolls were reduced by 6,800 people, to 442,510. None-

theless, the International Monetary Fund said it was concerned about Belgium's high unemployment and taxes. • Bolig- og Naeringsbanken ASA of Norway said it was in talks to take over Fokus Bank ASA, a regional bank, in a stock swap worth 2.19 billion kroner (\$290.4 million).

• Halifax PLC will buy back up to £1 billion (\$1.65 billion) worth of its shares in the next year. The bank, which went public last year, said pretax profit rose 15 percent in 1997, to £1.65 billion.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFX

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

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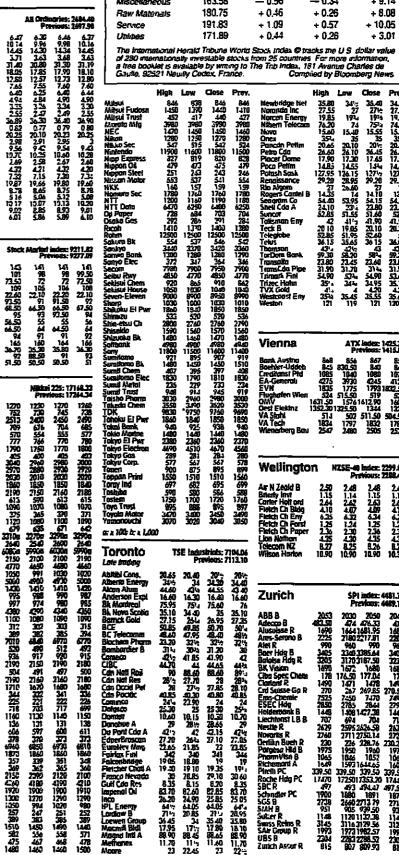
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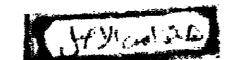
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ASIA/PACIFIC

For China's Middle Class, Home Is Where the Subsidy Is

SHANGHAI - Li Li, a 35-yearold cellist, and her businessman husband live in one room of a three- Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, an eco-

While the three families share name as prime minister at its annual than 5 percent growth this year. two bathrooms and a kitchen, Mrs. meeting this week. Li has no interest in moving out or trading up - even as the government pushes China's emerging market, which will lead middle class to buy into the dream of home ownership.

The reason: Her government-subsidized rent is less than \$10 a month. "I don't want to buy an apartment,

nor can I afford one," she said. That is a big problem for government officials, who are bankrolling the construction of about \$350 billion of new apartments in the next three years — 12 million apartments - to shore up economic growth.

The building program is the centerpiece of a government push to keep the economy on track and crewill be thrown out of work by the rock banks and ignite inflation.

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A STATE OF THE STA

closure of hundreds of money-losing state companies.

It is a pet initiative of Deputy

Housing "is a gargantuan and limitless to the development of dozens of other sectors" --- such as home appliances and con-

sumer electronics — according to a recent commentary by the official Xinhua news agency.

The collapse of Asian currencies promises to throttle China's exports - its main engine of economic growth — and put Beijing in the same bind that confounded governments throughout Asia the past year: Maintain the currency's value or weaken it to shore up exports and ate new jobs for the millions who risk setting off a free-fall that could

The economy, which grew by 8.8 1999," said Gilbert Choi, director percent in 1997 — its slowest rate of China Research with Kleinwort own apartments, local governments bedroom apartment they share with nomic policymaker that the Nation- Export growth, which surged 20 per-

since 1990 — is expected to slow to Benson Securities.

Even among China's best paid, many workers cannot afford private rent, and ownership is out of reach.

> Cash-strapped Asian businesses - which last year accounted for billion foreign investment - will also curtail new investments.

That has left policymakers groping for alternatives that promote growth, while safeguarding the currency — hence the housing policy. The problem is that it may not

"I'd expect some minimal effect

about three-quarters of China's \$43

on the economy, beginning in ers off welfare housing will not be gage with my wages."

and down the road you will have to dong Kelon Co. are making down al People's Congress is likely to cent last year, may post little more buy your place, your immediate reaction is you save," Mr. Choi said.

Construction firms say they are not eager to build apartments. They are not as profstable as office build-

hua, director of Beijing Agricultural Industrial Commercial Corp.
That says a lot, given that Beijing's office rents have dropped by 40 percent over the past year,

with a forest of cranes still throwing up new towers all over town. Banks, already burdened by bad loans that account for 20 percent of their total, are reluctant to add new. Chen said a mortgage would cost bud debt by lending to individuals

who could soon be jobless. But weaning China's urban work-

are cutting rent subsidies and state-"If I tell you your rent is raised, owned companies such as Guangpayments for their employees.

That is small comfort to workers worried about their own jobs and trying to scrape together enough to buy a place to call their own.

Even among China's best paid, many Shanghai workers cannot afings, said Xing Chun- ford private rent, and ownership is out of reach. A low-cost apartment sells for 120,000 yuan (\$14,494), or about 11 years of the average salary

last year of 10,663 years. Buying an apartment is my dream," said Chen Bin, a 22-yearold computer engineer whose marriage plans are on hold until he can

secure an apartment. At current interest rates, Mr. him 2,000 yuan a month, a third

more than his total salary.
"I can't afford the monthly mort-

Japan Carmakers

Scale Back Plans

TOKYO - More had news

emerged Tuesday from Japan's car-

makers as companies scaled back

production plans for March and

April in the face of poor demand at

home and declining prospects for

Investors greated the news by un-

loading shares in the big carmakers,

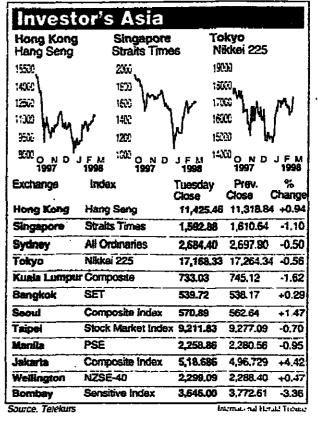
reported Tuesday that Toyota would

The newspaper also said April

which fell across the board.

export growth.

For Production



Beijing to Unveil Reform Of Telephone Regulation

SHANGHAI -- China is on the verge of a major shake-up of its telecommunications sector aimed at accelerating access to the so-called information superhighway and wresting regulatory control from network operators, industry executives said Tuesday.

The plan calls for the merger of three key bodies in the telecommunications sector — the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the Ministry of Radio, Film and Television and the Ministry of Elec-

tronics Industry. Part of an ambitious overhaul of China's government, the move would create a new body, similar to the Federal Communications Commission of the United States, that would have broader regulatory powers. The new group would be called the Information Industry Committee, executives said. The

operation and network regulation.

"The rapid development of technology in different fields requires a different type of regulatory format," said a senior official in the telecommunications sector. The reorganization would be part

of the broad government streamlining spurred by Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, who is widely expected to take over as prime minister at the next session of Parliament. The changes also aim to reduce

wasteful spending as ministries scramble to gain a share of the market and build their own networks. 'Greater coordination will probably mean a loss of some demand for

our products," said an executive at a fiber-optic cable company. "But the market is still growing rapidly." No change is expected in the restrictions on foreign companies,

which are not allowed to operate telecommunications networks in



Police officers patrolling in Beijing on Tuesday before the opening session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Telecommunications Corp., or China
Unicom, could be one of the main benefactors of the realignment.

with its powerful rival.

"This should give Unicom a units, d much fairer shake," said a foreign earlier.

challenge what was then the Min- munications sector. shake-up would separate the tasks of China. But the fledgling domestic istry of Posts' telephone monopoly, equipment manufacturing, network telephone company, China United has found it difficult to compete has to compete with the regulator."

China Unicom, set up in 1994 to consultant who follows the telecom-

"It could mean Unicom no longer

Toyota Motor Corp. said it would cut its temporary work force by half to 1,500 by the end of April due to sluggish domestic demand. It had already stopped hiring temporary workers, a spokeswoman said. The daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun

cut its daily output in April to 12,500 units, down 20 percent from a year

output by 11 Japanese carmakers would fall 11 percent from a year earlier to slightly more than 790,000 yuan. units, according to monthly production plans the carmakers submitted

to their parts suppliers. Several carmakers said they had scaled back production targets for March as well.

Honda Motor Co. trimmed its plans for production in March to 113,600 vehicles from an earlier target of 118,000, although this was bled banking unit. still up from 110,134 a year earlier, a Honda spokesman said.

cent from 84,538 in March 1997.

Nissan Motor Co. was planning to reduce production in March by about 10 percent from an earlier projection, a Nissan spokesman said.

while Nissan shed 13 yen to close at 541 yen. Mazda dropped 20 yen to

Very briefly:

 Prince Waleed ibn Talal, the Saudi Arabian billionaire, intends to seal deals worth \$250 million with South Korean companies during a visit to the country next week, the London-based Asharq al Awsat newspaper reported him as saying. The newspaper also said Prince Waleed planned to invest in a Four Seasons hotel in Seoul.

 Japanese companies are expected to suffer an average 0.4 percent drop in current profit in the year ending this month, the first decline in four years, the Daiwa Institute of Research

• Plutonic Resources Ltd., a gold producer that plans to merge with Homestake Mining Co., posted a loss of 62.3 million Australian dollars (\$42.3 million) for 1997 due to asset writedowns because of lower gold prices. In 1996, the com-

pany posted a net profit of 30.6 million dollars. • Standard & Poor's Corp. raised the long-term ratings of Honda Motor Co. and American Honda Finance Corp. to A from A-minus.

 Cheil Communications Inc.'s shares rose to 22,400 won (\$14.46) from their subscription price of 12,000 won on their first day of trading on the Seoul stock exchange.

• Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd. and Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., the two flagships of Li Ka-shing, plan to spend \$600 million on a joint venture to expand their hotel businesses.

 Hong Kong's chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, said the recent steep falls in Hong Hong's stock and property markets were "a good thing" and long overdue. He added that China's strong fundamentals meant there was no reason to devalue the

Malaysia Sets Bank Merger Talks

KUALA LUMPUR - Rashid Hussain Bhd., a Malaysian financial-services group, said Tuesday it had approval to start negotiations to acquire Sime Darby Bhd.'s financially trou-

Rashid Hussain said it had "received approval from Bank londa spokesman said. Negara to proceed with merger negotiations for the ac-Mazda Motor Corp. said its do-quisition of Sime Bank Bhd. by the RHB Group for the pretax profit for the year to March ees in the United States, or about a mestic vehicle production in March purpose of a merger with RHB Bank Bhd.

subsidiary of RHB Capital, which is 46 percent owned by

Earlier Tuesday, the government said Sime Bank needed a fresh capital injection, raising fears that Asia's financial crisis

had seeped into Malaysia's banking sector. Bank Negara, Malaysia's central bank, said the country's second-largest bank, government-run Bank Bumiputra

Malaysia Bhd., and two finance companies might also need new funds as worries about the financial sector undermine the ringgit and share prices.

Bank Negara said Sime Bank, one of the top 10 banks, needed 1.2 billion ringgit (\$331 million) in capital to restore it to financial health.

GE and Thai Firm Form Credit Venture

BANGKOK - GE Capital (Thailand) Ltd. and the Central Group of Companies have begun a joint venture to provide consumer finance and store credit cards in Thailand, GE

Under the agreement, GE Capital, a subsidiary of General Electric Co. of the United States, will acquire a majority stake in Central Card Co., which issues and operates the Central charge card, GE Capital said.

The joint venture will operate and manage private-label credit cards - cards issued for individual retailers — as well as lease-purchase finance and proprietary credit services.

Continued from Page 15

the Computer Associates president, put

their offer to his shareholders. However,

Mr. Wang continued, now that the offer

has been made public Computer Sciences

management is refusing to let its share-

holders decide and has strengthened its

initially with Van going through these issues, and, as he said, ultimately it's the

price that will determine. He said 'take it

to the shareholders,' we did all of the

above, and now he's preventing us from

In a Feb. 19 letter to Mr. Wang, Mr.

Honeycutt said a takeover by Computer

Associates would be bad for Computer

Sciences customers and employees. Adding the company's 42,000 sales rep-

resentatives is a key goal of Computer

Associates, which has vowed not to fire

any Computer Sciences employees. Mr.

Wang acknowledged that the no-firing

pledge was in part a response to his

company's reputation for sharp staff

But Computer Associates is commit-

led to its strategy, Mr. Wang said, and is betting heavily that it is right. The com-

pany said over the weekend that its earn-

ings would be as much as 30 percent

lower in the first year after a deal was

consummated than if it did not buy Com-

In addition, Mr. Wang made a heavy

personal wager. He, Mr. Kumar and

Russell Artzi, executive vice president,

stood to get more than \$1 billion of stock

if the Computer Associates share price

taking it to the shareholders."

"We had some very nice negotiations

anti-takeover defenses.

cuts after takeovers.

puter Sciences.

Party Control of the Control of the

Continued on Page.

All Nippon to Cut Pay 3% to Bolster Profit

TOKYO — All Nippon Airways said Tuesday it would reduce sal-aries of pilots and managers by an average 3 percent in hopes of imthat has dented revenue and earnings at Japan's second-biggest airline.

The carrier also said Tuesday it was negotiating with foreign air-lines, reported to be United Airlines Inc. of the United States and Lufthansa AG, on a joint reservations and marketing agreement known as code-sharing.

Starting in April, the company will cut the salaries of 3,000 employees with a view to saving 700 million yen (\$5.6 million) within a year.

"We are going to implement the

on the table, but he suggested they take the bid. Since then, it has fallen below

including seven consecutive days up to

that benchmark. In late trading Tuesday,

the company's shares were quoted at \$46, down 62.5 cents.

Computer Associates would have to in-

spect Computer Sciences's books to

determine whether an additional pay-

ences has characterized them as brief

Wang bridled at that version of events:

the deal, including pricing, roles, op-

"I'm not going to go and split hairs

ment was justified.

south of the city, to cut costs.
In October, All Nippon said it was

proving profitability after a price war suffering in a price war on domestic that has dented revenue and earnings routes and forecast that parent 17.3 billion yen the previous year. Net profit was forecast at 2.3 billion yen, compared with 3.9 billion yen. Revenue was projected to total 929.9 billion yen.

All Nippon has been building its international service since 1986. The code-sharing deal eliminates the need for transiting passengers to check in again at the airport when transferring

to the flight of the other airline.

All Nippon said. The carrier is also American Airlines Inc. in October, considering relocating its headquar- in the first such tie-up between a ters from Tokyo to Haneda Airport, Japanese and American carrier.

■ JAL Said to Cut Jobs in U.S.

Japan Air Lines was reported to have dismissed 200 full-time employwould be 15 billion yen, down from quarter of its American work force, as was likely to fall by nearly 10 perpart of its goal to cut costs by about 2.5 billion yen over six years, Bloomberg News reported, citing unidentified sources from the company quoted by Nikkei English News.

The airline plans to subcontract operations at three New York lo
Toyota shares closed Tuesday at operations at three New York lo
3,450 yen (\$27,49), down 40 yen, cations, in June, and in Honolulu, possibly this year. Japan Air Lines will create a new subsidiary for its 380 yen and even Honda, which was Los Angeles passenger division and firmer for much of the session, pay cut in order to strengthen our competitiveness," a spokesman for announced it would share codes with division, Nikkei English News said.

WANG: Computer Associates' Chief Seeks to Buy Service Firm

12-month period. The stock was above tiations or not. I have done quite a few

that level for 16 days since October, acquisitions in my career, I know when I am negotiating with somebody." In the second negotiation, held in Scottsdale, Arizona, Mr. Wang said that Mr. Honeycutt told Mr. Kumar that he would accept a price range of \$115 to \$125 per share. Mr. Plowman said that

When asked his reaction to losing out, at least temporarily, on becoming a "Mr. Honeycutt has never priced the company for anybody and he never offered to sell it to Charles." multibillionaire, Mr. Wang said: "After a million what difference does it really While Computer Sciences has acmake? I'm sending a very clear signal to cused Mr. Wang of trying to bribe Mr. my shareholders how I feel about this thing. I think strategically, it is the right thing to do. You don't do what basically Van is doing, which is to look at only what's in it for him.' Honeycutt into accepting his offer, Mr. Wang offered a different view: "The first time we met he asked point blank

what's in it for him. When we heard that

After Mr. Kumar made the offer pubwe even had to caucus, we had to stop the lic. Computer Associates said it would meeting, Sanjay and I, we hadn't thought about addressing that issue."

Mr. Wang said a report in the Washington Post last week that Computer pay up to \$114 per share for a negotiated deal, then made a hostile bid on Feb. 17. Its offer includes the assumption of \$700 million of debt. Mr. Wang said banks Sciences was looking for evidence that supplying financing for his bid said they could provide the extra cash, although his company was not qualified to un-

dertake classified work for the U.S. government was a "smokescreen." "We have many projects that have top-secret clearance, so I don't think it's an issue today with the federal govern-ment," he said. Computer Associates did While the companies agree that two ment," he said. Computer Associates did not provide a percentage of its work that is done for the government, while govmade public on Feb. 11, Computer Sci-

encounters, not negotiating sessions. Mr. percent of Computer Sciences's sales. if the deal falls through, Computer Associates might look for another target, Mr. Wang said, or develop its own services operation.

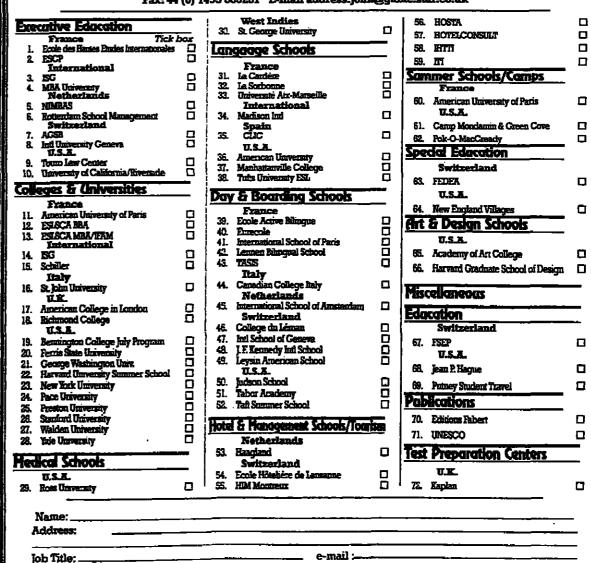
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with anybody with negotiations," he said. "Let's put it. We talked intently on For now, however, "we've made this bed, so to speak, we're lying in it, and we tions, the fact that we're not going to be will continue to pursue this until it's very laying anybody off because of the deal. So I'm not going to get into mudslinging clear that we're either going to do it or was more than \$53.33 for 60 days of any about what that is, whether it's negonot do it."

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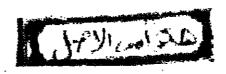
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Serald Eribune SPORTS

World Roundup

Doby Joins the Hall

BASEBALL Larry Doby, the first black player in the American League, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on Tuesday by the Veterans Committee.

The committee also chose Lee MacPhail, the former American League president; "Bullet" Joe Rogan, a Negro League pitcher, and "Gorgeous" George Davis, a shortstop from early this century,

MacPhail joins his father, Larry, as the only father-and-son combination in the Hall.

Doby became the second black major leaguer and the first in the AL when he pinch-hit for the Cleveland Indians on July 5, 1947, against Chicago at Comiskey Park. He made seven All-Star teams and helped the Indians to a World Series championship in 1948. (AP)

Dolphins Sign 4 Players

FOOTBALL Brock Marion, a freeagent safety, left the Dallas Cowboys to sign a three-year contract Tuesday with the Miami Dolphins. rejoining coach Jimmy Johnson.

The Dolphins also re-signed James Brown, a tackle, to a fiveyear deal Tuesday. On Monday, The Dolphins had re-signed Bernie Parmalee, a running back, to a twoyear contract and agreed to a twoyear deal with Kevin Alexander, a free-agent wide receiver.

 Ted Washington, a nose tackle, became the highest-paid player in Buffalo Bills' history, signing a five-year, \$27.3 million con-

Sprewell in Accident

Lattell Sprewell, a guard who is suspended by the National Basketball Association, lost control of his car while changing lanes on a northern California freeway, causing another vehicle to flip over, authorities said Monday. Witnesses said Sprewell was speeding while cutting through traffic. No one was seriously injured

seriously injured. Mo Vaughn, the Boston Red Sox slugger, had been drinking at a strip club before he crashed into a car parked beside the highway and flipped his pickup, according to testimony in his trial on drunken driving charges in Dedham, Massachusetts. Immediately after the accident, on Jan. 9, Vaughn failed eight sobriety tests, the police said.

 Two Olympic snowboarders are due in court in Nevada on Wednesday on marijuana-related charges. Michael Kildevaeld, a member of the Danish team, and Brett Tippie, a Canadian, were arrested Saturday after a deputy stopped their car for speeding. They were returning from a com-petition. Deputies said they found about two grams of what was believed to be marijuana and a pipe in

Rolen Accepts \$10 Million

BASEBALL Scott Rolen, the National League rookie of the year last year, agreed to a new contract with the Philadelphia Phillies, accepting \$10 million over four years.

Rolen will get \$750,000 this year, \$1 million next year, \$2.5 million in 2000 and \$5.5 million in 2001. Rolen, who turns 23 on April 4, made \$175,000 last year. (AP)

Treated Like Meat

SOCCER A Romanian soccer player has been sold by his club for 500 kilograms of pork, worth about \$2,500. Jiul Petrosani, a second division

team, received the meat from Valcea of the third division for Ion Radu, a midfielder The club plans to sell the pork to pay player wages. Petrosani also sold a defender Liviu Baicea, to Valcea for 10 soc-(AFP)



DANGEROUS GAMES - Rivaldo, right, the Barcelona striker, swerving to avoid the raised boot of Arpon of Racing Santander. Luis Figo, center, looked on. Barcelona won, 4-2, in Santander on Monday to regain first place in the Spanish league. Rivaldo scored in the 69th and 71st minutes to give his team a 2-1 lead. Santander leveled in the 80th minute, but Barcelona's other Brazilian striker, Sonny Anderson, scored twice to secure victory.

New Life for Disabled Czech Athletes

Downhill Skier and 6 Teammates Compete in Winter Paralympics By Peter S. Green International Herald Tribune

RAGUE — Jan Dostal was 8 and living in Communist Czechoslovakia when he lost his left leg to cancer. When he finally returned to school, after nearly two years in and out of the hospital, his schoolmates teased him mercilessly.

They were kids. They didn't understand what had happened to me," the 20-year-old recalled in Prague last week. "But once I showed them I could play sports like anyone else, they quickly accepted me.

He was accepted and he excelled. Last Saturday, Dostal, an accomplished downhill skier, flew with five other disabled Czech athletes to Nagano, Japan, to compete in the Winter Paralympic Games, which start Thursday.

This year, 32 countries will compete in five main sports: downhill skiing, cross-country, biathlon, curling and sledge hockey. Sledge hockey players are seated in a small sledge on skate blades and shove themselves around the ice with a pair of short hockey sticks.

The Czechs are sending seven athletes to Nagano, four physically disabled male skiers and three blind or partly sighted female skiers.

Dostal uses a single ski and long crutch-like poles with short ski tips attached to the ends, called outriggers. Dostal has found hope in the healing

power of sport. But it has been a

In Communist Eastern Europe, handicapped children were often kept locked away in institutions and sent to schools for the learning disabled.

Dostal says it was only with the support and perseverance of his family that he was able to overcome quickly what could easily have been a life-breaking

Encouraged by his grandfather, Emil Dostal, a well-known athletics coach, and his father, Jiri, an enthusiastic amateur athlete, young Jan took up every sport he could: volleyball, basketball, swimming and even the high jump.

went back to school and took a course in training handicapped skiers.
"The regime didn't want us to play

sports; they didn't want us to be seen,' said Dostal, who is studying for a degree in coaching disabled athletes. "They wanted to show how 'clean' the country was, and that there weren't many handicapped athletes.' Jan Pauer, one of the founders of the

Czech disabled sports movement, said: "Sport was the shop window of the regime. The regime wanted to show how great they were through sport, and handicapped sports weren't attractive for them. It was soccer, hockey, track and field that got the attention and the

Pauer lost his left leg when he fell under a Prague tram in 1958, just before his 19th birthday, He founded the first

disabled sports club in Prague in 1964. While the top able-bodied athletes were often given jobs in state companies - with no work required - and free training, disabled athletes had to battle for funds, equipment and even time off for training.

By telling their employers they were going on medical leave, the disabled athletes would coordinate time off for

training sessions and competitions. "We came up with the idea of exchanges, instead of trips," Pauer said, 'so we would pay for the stay of a Western team here, and they'd pay for our stay there, so we could afford it."

VEN SO, the Communist authorities were loath to let too many people — athletes or tourists travel to the West, especially after the clampdown that followed the 1968 So-

viet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia. "The best was if workers' sports organizations invited us abroad, because the regime considered them to be fellow leftists," Pauer said.

"We Czechs are pretty clever, so pretty soon we managed to get every sports organization that invited us to call itself a workers' committee."

Slowly, through trips abroad to sports meets for disabled athletes, the Czechs His father, a part-time ski instructor, saw new training techniques and equipment. But money was hard to come by, and even by 1980, with 2,000 athletes registered in disabled sports clubs, the Communist authorities were reluctant to let more than one athlete with a physician and a coach travel to a meet.

When they finally sent a team to the 1988 Paralympics in Seoul, the athletes had to promise that if they won a medal they would not ask the government for the honorarium customarily awarded medal winners by the government.

THEN THE "Velvet Revolution" swept Czechoslovakia's v ossified Communists from power, life improved for disabled ath-

They have found corporate sponsors, and equipment and travel have been made available.

Conditions have improved for Dostal, too. Three years ago, he was given a sophisticated artificial leg worth \$5,000 --- more than a year's salary for the average Czech — but he still walks a with a pronounced limp from 10 years of wearing inadequate prostheses.

He also won a three-year sponsorship from the local distributor of Dynastar

But funds are still tight, A preseason trip to Kaprun Glacier in Austria exhausted the ski teams' budget, leaving them with little opportunity to practice when this year's warm winter kept the Czech slopes bare of snow. It also left-Dostal and others wondering where the pledges of the Paralympics sponsors have gone.

A mere 40 days of practice this season mean it is unlikely that even the top Czech skiers will bring home medals. Dostal says he is hoping to place in the top 12 in the slalom.

While the Czech hockey team was celebrated as national heroes after defeating Russia for the gold at Nagano in the nation's favorite sport, the Czechs will not even be fielding a disabled sledge hockey team at Nagano. "A lot of young handicapped people

don't have any access to sports," Dostal said. "They don't even know this exists.

Time for Derring-Do In the Champions Cup

Stars Need to Show Some Genius (And Quit Thinking About Money)

By Rob Hughes

ONDON - The pulse quickens. The accountants perk up. The players of the last eight teams in the UEFA Champions League are primed for the resumption Wednesday of soccer's most precious club tournament.
Real Madrid, Manchester United,
Bayern Munich and Juventus are great
names in a competition that has often

EUROPEAN SOCCER

provided a seasonal lift. But are these clubs now principally finance houses? Are the teams now entirely focused on chasing profits for their clubs, or is there some small place in a player's makeup that will make him abandon conform-

It might only take a moment of Roberto Carlos's time. Or a flicker of genius from Elber or David Beckham or Zinedine Zidane. Just let go, guys, take the risk. Make it happen.

Soccer is big business, but so is music. Andre Previn, the conductor, made a remark this week that applied to great soccer as much as to great music. He said he enjoyed conducting the London Symphony Orchestra because its musicians would take a chance; they played to order, but every now and then they would reach for something extraordi-

In concert we expect perfect pitch; on a soccer pitch we hope to applaud perfection. We hope for a movement that transcends modern organized frustration. Among the quarterfinalists in the Champions League, the professionals of Real Madrid are under the most pressure but also the most artistic.

The club is living with two shortfalls - its 10 billion peseta (\$65 million) debt to creditors, and the 32 years since it was last the champion of Europe.

Yet early this season, in the Champions League, I saw Real play with joy. Roberto Carlos, Clarence Seedorf, Fernando Hierro, Raul Gonzales, Pedrag Mijatovic seemed like liberated children. The strict team builder, Fabio Capello, had departed to Italy, Jupp Heynckes, the German now in charge, had not then imposed his demands.

Heynckes has since persuaded the board to go deeper and deeper into debt, gambling on the European crown lifting Real Madrid's valuation. Heynckes has rebalanced midfield with Christian Karembeu, the dogged French warrior on the right and Savio Bortolini, the elusive goal-scoring Brazilian on the left.

Lorenzo Sanz, the club president, is

impatient for returns. Heynckes and Sanz are squeezed by debt and expectation. There is mistrust and fear of failure, and it will be tested to extremes Wednesday, when Real Madrid plays at Bayer Leverkusen, followed by Saturday, when it plays in an even fiercer cauldron, the Spanish season's possibly decisive contest in Barcelona.

These could be a make or break four days in Real Madrid's year. Will Real to entertain, to show us the soul of soccer?

Leverkusen has a Brazilian craftsman, Emerson, and Ulf Kirsten, the leading Bundesliga scorer for two seasons, to probe Real's weakness at the heart of defense. Yet Leverkusen is no champion; it finished runner-up in Germany last year and was admitted to the tournament through the distortion of a so-called Champions League that allows powerful nations but two entries.

Indeed, Germany has three teams in the final eight. Bayern Munich, the national champion, meets Borussia Dortmund, the Champions Cup holder, on Wednesday. That is good for the Germans, exploiting the opportunities, but it hardly adds excitement to the competition. The Bundesliga heavyweights know

one another too well. The Bayern president, Franz Beckenbauer, apologizes in advance should the encounter offer League championship in 1995.

more unyielding German league fare. Moreover, Bayern has recently lost to Cologne and Hertha Berlin. Dortmund is having an indifferent domestic season. So both teams will go warily to the Olympic Stadium.

Fear should play less of a role in Monte Carlo where Stadio Louis II will for once be a full to its 18,000 capacity for the visit of Manchester United United is out to recapture a trophy it won once, 30 years ago, before all except goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel and forward Teddy Sheringham were born.

Youth and the work ethic make Manchester United effervescent. With over two months to go, United has just about wrapped up another English chainpionship, and last Saturday, after it engaged only second gear to win at Chelsea, Luca Vialli, the new Chelsea playercoach, pronounced United ready to conquer Europe. It has, said Vialli, the mental strength to do what he did with Juventus and win the Champions Cup.

ot a bad recommendation. But United is without Ryan Giggs, who has a hamstring injury. Monaco may be without its young striker, David Trezeguet, but its pace and skill will test United's European

In Turin, Italian experience meets Ukrainian aspiration. Juventus has appeared in three successive European Champions League finals and tops Serie
A. Edgar Davids injects hard running, Zidane has skill to spare, and Alessandro Del Piero is among Europe's most

consistent big-night strikers.
Yet Dynamo Kiev has resisted the temptation to sell its young stars. It still has Sergei Rebrov and Andrei Shevchenko, goal scorers money has not been able to buy, and Valeri Lobanovski, a wily coach.

"Big name players get so far and become complacent," Lobanovsky said. "Look at Ronaldo. He's still improving, as he should at his age. But he stands around when he isn't scoring. I wouldn't swap him for Shevchenko, who puts in valuable team work."

Lobanovsky admires Juventus, but not too much. We all know who Juventus are," he said, "but I'm not sure the Italians know who we are. Let them think we are nobody from nowhere. Let them think

they will do us easily in both legs. Let them think Ukrainians hibernate for the whole winter. Their ignorance is our 12th player." It might be, comrade, if Marcello

Lippi, the Juventus coach was an ignorant man. He is anything but. Lippi's thoroughness, his industry and his team's effectiveness, so industrious in fact that there is rarely a pause for creation: a little time for fun. Rob Hughes is on the staff of The

Times of London. Kidnapping Ends in Russia

Kidnappers in southern Russia have released the 11-year-old daughter of the president of the Russian Premier Division soccer club Vladikavkaz Alania, Reuters reported Tuesday from Moscow.

A police spokesman in the volatile region of North Ossetia said Zalina Bitarova was at home with her parents after being held for ransom for 66 days by unidentified kidnappers. 'She had been held on the outskirts

of Vladikavkaz in the basement of a. house," the spokesman said by tele-

The girl was seized from outside her school in December. The Interfax press agency said kidnappers had demanded \$3 million for her release but later scaled down their demands. The police declined to say whether

her captors has been arrested. Batraz Bitarov is president of Alania Vladikavkaz, based in the region's main city. The club won the Russian Premier

any ransom money was paid. None of

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL EXHIBITION BASEBALL

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Chicago White Sox & Chicago Cubs 3 Son Diego & Colorado 4

COLLEGE TOURNAMENTS METRO ATLANTIC ATHLETIC CONT.

iona 90, Siena 75 MID-CONTINGENT CONFIDE Valparako 84. Buffalo 73 ingstown St. 74, Ord Rob MISSOUR! VALLEY COMPIÈNCE

Illinois St. 84, SW Missouri St. 74 HORTHEAST CONFERENCE Fairleigh Dickinson 105, Long Island U. 91 WEST COAST CONFERENCE

San Francisco 80, Gonzaga 67

THE AP TOP 25 Top 25 teams in AP men's basicstrall poli. igh March 1, total points based on 25

27-2 26-3 31-3 25-2 26-4 25-1 24-6 21-6 21-6 21-7 21-8 21-7 21-8 21-7 21-7 21-7 21-7 21-7 21-7 21-5 13. Texas Christia 14. Chickangti 15. South Carolina 16. Arkensas 17. Michigan 18. Illinois 19. UCLA 24. Templa 25. Oklahoma St.

413 292 237 212 189 181 Others receiving votes: Massachusetts 165. Murray St. 80. Rhode Island 57, St. Johns 54. Xavier 46. Tennessee 35, N. Carolina St. 23 Defroit 12 George Washington 10 Clemson 9, Vilnois St. 8, Boll St. 7, Coll. of Charleston 4 Jawa 4 Long Island U.4, N.C. Charlotte 4, Pacific 2, Miami

BASKETBALL

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AAL DIVISION

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A5 23 .603

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PACIFIC DIVISION

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Les Angeles 25 19 22 19—26
Weshington 24 25 25 22—96
L.A.: O'Neol 12-22-49 28, Jones 8-22 1-2 19:
Webber 11-23 8-10 31, Cheaney 7-12 6-7
21. Rebeands—Los Angeles 59 (O'Neol 15),
Washington 42 (Webber 10). Assists—Los
Angeles 23 (Fisher 10), Washington 22
(Webber, Strickund 8).
Gelden State 21 10 27 25—83
Chartette 31 18 20 33—112
CS.: Jockson 10-21 3-3 24, Wedthersboon

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1-3 16. Rebeundz—Golden Stote 44
Weatherspoon. Fuller, Catter 51, Chantotte
52 (Manon 11). Assists—Golden State 22
(Delt. Cales 4), Chartotte 31 (Marson 7).
Deltas
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D: Hill 12-2011-1435, Stockhouse 7-145-720. Rebounds—Dallos 47 (Riley 8), Detroi) 54 (J.Williams 14), Assists—Dallos 16 (Ceballos 6), Datroit 19 (Dumars 7), Secremente 18 22 24 29-95
S.A.: Duncon 10-15 9-12 29, Robinson 9-13 4-5 22: S: Richmond 7-19 6-8 21, Funderburke 5-9 6-10 16. Rebounds—San Antonio 56 (Duncan 17), Sacramento 47 (Owens, Thorpe 3). Assists—San Autonia 26 (Av_lahasan 11). ICE HOCKEY **NHL STANDINGS**

W L T Pbs GF GA
38 16 4 82 173 119
30 18 9 69 166 128
26 72 11 63 161 155
18 26 16 52 146 160
23 1 8 48 153 167
18 27 12 48 141 166
12 38 9 33 114 194

PACIFIC DIVISION
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Philipdelphia 0 1 2— New Jersey 2 1 1— First Period: N.J.-Roiston 13 (Thomas). New Jersey, McKay 18 (Hollik, Andreychut Second Period: N.J. Roiston 14 (Carpente Second Period: N.J. Roiston 14 (Carpenter)
(Sh). 4. P-Grattan 15 (Dalgle, Zubrus) Third
Period: P-Forbes 8 (Sillinger, Zubrus). 6. P.
Sillinger 11, 7, N.J. -Thomas 11, Shot's on goals.
P- 10-5.5—20. N.J. 6-11-10—27, Goales: P.
Hextell. N.J. Brodeur.
Edmonton 0 2 1 1—5
Colorado 0 4 0 0—4

First Period: None. Secand Period: E-Guerin 14 (Dollas) (pp). 2. E-Fraser 3 (Zelepukin. Murray) 3. C-Krupp 7 (Ozolinsh, Kamensky) (pp). 4. C-Miller 2 (Yelle) 5. C-Guerin 15. (op). Overfine: 9. E-Fraser 4 (Weight, McGillis), Shots on goal: E-9-8-7-1—25. C- 9-15-9-0—33. Geolius: E-Joseph,

CRICKET

WEST RIDIES VS. ENGLAND

FOURTH TEST, FOURTH DAY MONDAY IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA Mest Indies 332 one 17. England: 170 and 137 West Indies won by 242 runs and leads six motch series 2-)

BCCI PRESIDENT'S XI YS. AUSTRALIA THREE-DAY MAYON, THIRD DAY TUESDAY IN VISAKHAPATNAM, INDIA BCCI President's XI: 379-4 declared

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Period: V-Scarleiand 17 (Onlund) Third
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Covertry 39; Southampton 37; Newcostle, Sheffield Wednesday 34; Aston VRa 33; on 32: Totte Wimbledon: 32: Tottenham, Everton 30: Barnsley 25: Bolton 24: Crystal Palace 23. SPANISH FREST DIVISION

rt Aleberras: Barcelona 52 paints; Real arid 50; Affetico Madrid 45; Real Sociedad 44, Cella Vigo 44; Real Bells 43; Mallorca 42 Albielic Bilboo 41; Espanyol 39; Valencia 38 Roal Zaragaza 36: Valladolid 35: Ovjeda 34 Deportivo Coruna 33: Merida 31: Rading Santander 30: Salamanca. Tenerife 28: Com postela 27; Sporting Gijon 7.

TENNIS

 Martina Hingls. Switzerland, 5,688 points
 Lindsoy Dovenport. U.S., 4,154
 Jana Novotno, Czech Republic, 3,879
 Monizz Seise, U.S., 2,988
 Amanda Coetzer, Sauth Africa, 2,853 6. tva Majoli, Crostic, 2705 Mary Pierce, France, 2,690 8. Aranko Sancher Vicario, Spain, 2.674 P. Conchito Martinez, Spain, 2.484 D. Iring Spirios, Romania, 2.287 . Nothalle Tauziai, Fra Venus Williams, U.S., 1,930 13. Sandrine Testud, France, 1.920

TRANSITIONS

linique Van Roost, Belgium, 1,789

AMÉRICAN LEAGUR

NATIONAL LEAGUE wed combracts of C Gregg PITTSBURGH-Announced Working paret SAM FRANCISCO—Agreed to terms with SS Rich Auflin and OF Dante Powell on 1-year

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHICAGO-Signed F Dickey Simplems. ved F David Vaught.
RLAKDO-Signed G Kevin Offic to 10-467 contract, Waived G Spud Wabb.

MATIONAL POOTBALL LEAGUE AYLANTA-Agreed to ferms with OT Corer Louchley on 2-year contract.

BUFFALO—Signed NT Ted Washington (*) 5-verse contract. DENVER-Signed DE Marvin We

DETROIT-Signed QB Jim Miller to 1-your KANSAS CITY-Signed WR Dentick Alexan MIAMI-Re-signed RB Bernie Pressole and signed WR Kevin Alexander to 2-year contracts.

MINNESOTA—Named Chip Myers quality backs coach and Hubbard Algernake with PhiLADRLPHIA—Signed G Kedin Sins 10.2 Kesi, DT Most Storm and WR Sheddad

Wilson, Released CB Fredric Ford and TE TENNESSEE-Signed DT Henry Ford

i villyear contract. MOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

CAROLINA—Signed D Mark McMah LOS ANDELES -- Recolled G Fredi

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THE ROLL

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SPORTS

Derring. the bead off Keith Van thour Some Genills Askins crashed like a bull into Van Horn as the New Jersey Nets' forward sailed unprotected through the air on a drive to the basket Saturday. Askins was obviously "sending a to Van Horn and the Nets. National Basketbal

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Fear should play less of a four once be a full to its 18 full to the Visit of Manches I and the Visit of Manches I and the Visit of Manches I are supposed a four game suspension without pay on Gary game suspension without pay on Gary Youth and the work the.

Manchester United efferences e Uiese or er two months to go thedi about wrapped up another English promehip, and last Saturday air. action Silker Dakuup quer Europe, li has, said Viallage. Kul o; strength to do what he did with cker or and win the Champions Cup ham or

Monaco may be without a ingralled in National Hockey League.

Striker. David Trezeguet bur.

Keenan's patience with the referee

played But the same could be said of the A Edgar Davids injects hade plays for the second consecutive game.

Zidate has skill to spare, and "How long can this go on?" Robinated Dei Piero is among Europe son asked. "I thought it was being done and the carrier But if this is itch: en لدلتا الك

temptation to sell its young sac shame." 2034 is a 1 Wess till Partal: and visite, a willy coach in state

Big name players gersog. **Come Complacent," Lines Complacent, Lines Con a Roll, Hasek Shuts Out Rangers
**Control of Look at Ronaldo Height Con a Roll, Hasek Shuts Out Rangers proving, as he should a his pelistunds Ecound when he isn't say what swap him for Short with the same of t Loranovsky admires Juga. York Rangers for the third straight

game, stopping 32 shots in extending Buffalo's unbeaten streak to 13 games.

Alevei Thirdib had the control of Alexei Zhitnik had the only goal in the Sabres' 1-0 victory Monday night.

The previous siche Manager. who are are Let them there are Shares 1-0 victory Monday night.

The previous night, Hasek shut out cobody from nowhere Lating Washington. He has nine shutouts this they will do us easily in both season and won a gold manufacture. whole winter. Their ignorates. "I don't because it don't be a becau

I don't know if it's true that I'm the best, but right now I'm on a roll," said Hasek, the NHL's player of the month twice this season. "If I play for the mortan man Has mything but Ir Buffalo Sabres or the Czech Republic we are winning, and I feel or at a both the season." that fact that there is rardy a page read a story in The New York
Times where they said something nice
Re-Harrest is in the sense about me, so I had to prove the said something nice er there is into the fortun

Square Garden, but I never won a game here until this year and over won a game Lidnapping Enusure here until this year, and since then I have Konspect in south had in three shutouts in row."
Televisid the livest chieffed the Hasek has an

The Russian has go Sacras Vizikita later A police spokesman in the men DENNIS THE MENACE area a way at home with in the company from the ranson to their contractions of the co articles and kildingers. Of Victimitary in the business he spokesma sed he

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The Goonsmanship in the NBA

New York Times Service
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Son No book to a series of the came and fined him \$10,000. That is having an indifferent done, son So both reams will go games and fined him \$10,000. That message causes a minor inconveni-Son So both teams will go water the standium.

Givening Stadium.

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doctors believe may be the rest of the

The NBA has a wonderful forum for

Vantage Point / IRA BERKOW

entertainment. It is a tough sport and, when played at its best, often performed with judicious muscle. But goonsmanship not only diminishes the sport, but also risks serious and perhaps careerending injury.

AN HORN lay on the court for a brief, fearful period. Van Horn then rose unsteadily, but continued on.

Whether Askins, as is highly probable, was following some order, direct or through coachly osmosis, from the sainted Pat Riley, his blatant foul was clearly intended to try to intimidate Van Horn, the celebrated rookie, and the rising Nets. Miami holds first place in the teams' Atlantic Division, and Van Horn may be the key that unlocks the Heat's hegemony.

The Askins foul apparently worked for a while. The Heat came back from a 15-point fourth-quarter deficit to defeat the Nets at home. The next night the two teams met again. The Nets played with guile and grit at Miami, but lost by a point, Van Horn demonstrated his mettle

by rebounding from Askins's assault with 22 points, the high for his team. Riley excused the Askins play by saying it was "a hard foul."

There are indeed hard fouls, and baskets should not go uncontested.

But a player's well-being should not be imperiled. Nor should this be a case of artistic judgments. The league, to its credit, disagreed with Riley and leveled its top-level flagrant foul - of two levels. Flagrant foul two is "unnecessary and excessive." It seems there should be a third level,

since level two doesn't quite cut it. If there were a flagrant foul three, it would be meted out when, as in Askins's foul, serious injury could have been inflicted. The league has done a good job in

stopping the fighting," said Willis Reed, an executive with the Nets. "I'm sure it could do the same with fouls of that nature." He is correct. .

It should have sent Askins and others - players and coaches who itch to do the same - a stiffer message. Five games at home without pay for the perpetrator sounds about right.

gaged only second gear towns of the new Cheles I NHL Clampdown on Fouls Draws Fire coach, pronounced United Proposition of the new Cheles I NHL Clampdown on Fouls Draws Fire

INGLEWOOD, California - It does not take much to upset Mike Keenan,

United is without Rise!

United is without Rise!

Just ask anyone who has played for him. Only now, he has a new reason to be angry — the frequency of penalties beauty — the frequency —

redigies will test United's in Mick McGeough wore thin during the game with the Los Angeles Kings that In Turn. Italian expensive ended in a 2-2 tie Monday night.

in three successive is usually mild-mannered Larry Robinson. mptons League finals and whose Kings had to defend nine power

Yet Dyname Kiev has rese improve the game. But if this is improvement, I don't know. It's just a

has Serger Rebrov and a Keenan described his disdain for the Shevehenko, goal scores me crackdown on restraining fouls, saying: the been able to buy, and Vile: "It was very difficult to get any syn-

Dominik Hasek shut out the New

"I read a story in The New York

Hasek has not allowed New York a

goal for 198 minutes, 46 seconds. It's

chronicity into the game. The flow of the game was really disrupting for both teams with 18 power plays.

'It was a good example of a night where two teams really wanted to go at it hard, forecheck and take the body. And it ended up just being about special

"The players don't enjoy it," Keenan said, "and I'm sure the fans don't, either. I agree that interference-obstruction is a good area to address, but maybe the timing could be questioned." The coach might get an argument, however, from the league's offensive

stars - including one of his own. Mark Messier, who opened the scoring with a shorthanded goal, is enjoying the extra skating room he has seen since the rules were changed during the

league's Olympic break. "It's certainly going to be different until the players adapt to it," Messier said. "There's going to be an adjust-

the first time in Sabres history they shut

"He's the best player in the game right now," Wayne Gretzky said.

He's at a level no one else in the game

Devils 4, Flyers 3 Host New Jersey beat Philadelphia for the third succes

sive time and has outscored the Flyers,

13-4. But the Devils, who are unbeaten

in eight games, the last seven of them

victories, blew a 3-0 lead, then won it on

Thomas broke free and was bearing

down on goalie Ron Hextall, who came

out of his net late. Thomas poked the

puck off Hextall's pad, and it trickled

Ollers 5, Avalanche 4 In Denver, Scott

Fraser and Bill Guerin each finished

Fraser scored 11 seconds into overtime

as Edmonton ended a 13-game winless

with two goals for the Oilers, who

Steve Thomas's strange goal.

slowly into the net.

streak against Colorado.

out a team three times in a row.

is at. He's just sensational."

ment period, but I don't think it's going to take anything away from the game. think the idea is to enhance the game." Rob Blake, a Kings defenseman,

agreed, adding that bigger players now have an advantage. "The thing we have to our advantage

is that we're big, and we can get in the way," he said. "When a guy steps in front of another guy, not once do they call it. It's everything either with the stick or with the hands. "So our guys realize that they can use

their bodies. Matty Norstrom does it the best on our team. When you skate in front of a guy and hold him up that way, you're going to get away with that all night long."
The Kings escaped harm from the

penalties called against them, holding off the Canucks, who have scored only three times against Los Angeles in 47 opportunities with a man advantage

squandered a 2-0 lead and then over-

Edmonton was 0-12-1 during that

Red Wings 3. Coyotes 1 Sergei Fedorov, in his second game after a long holdout, scored his first goal of the

pass from Steve Yzerman and one-

Penguins 3, Maple Leafs 1 In Pitts-

Rob Brown scored Pittsburgh's first

burgh, Alexei Morozov and Stu Barnes

scored 1:33 apart as the Penguins scored

goal with only 1:12 gone, one of two

Penguins power-play goals as they took

a 3-1 lead over Toronto in the opening

4:49. The Penguins had converted only

two of their previous 26 power-play

picked up two goals and an assist while Trevor Kidd stopped 43 shots for Car-

Hurricanes 3, Sharks 1 Gary Roberts

on three of its first four shots.

timed a shot past Nikolai Khabibulin.

for the first time since Dec. 7, 1995.

stretch.

season for the visitors.

olina at San Jose.



Shaquille O'Neal, the Lakers' volatile center, shooting over the Wizards' forward Ben Wallace in a game Washington won, 96-86.

After the Lakers Lose, O'Neal Goes on Offensive

The Associated Press WASHINGTON — Shaquille

O'Neal bitterly complained about his teammates and the officiating, then invited the National Basketball Association to fine him. He didn't say a word about his own

missed dunk and the bricks that passed for his free-throw attempts.

O'Neal unleashed a profane mono-logue in the locker room after the slumping Los Angeles Lakers' lost on Monday night to the Washington Wizards, 96-86.

Chris Webber had 31 points to lead Washington, leaving O'Neal angry at teammates and the referees in his came a 4-2 deficit to beat the Avalanche

second straight postgame tirade.
First, O'Neal did not like it that two Laker teammates, Rick Fox and Eddie Jones, were firing up quick 3-pointers. They made four of 12. O'Neal, who had 28 points and 15 rebounds, complained

about the "wannabes" on the Lakers. "Those off-balance, one-legged,

league," he said.
Then O'Neal turned his wrath on the officials. After the Lakers' back-toback road losses at New York and Washington, O'Neal said going home to the Great Western Forum would not make any difference.

"No, I don't get no calls there, either," O'Neal said. "It don't matter. I might have to break somebody's facial structure to get a call. I might have to do that next game.

"If they don't want to get them off me, I'll get them off myself," he said. "If want to fine me for my comment. take double. I don't care. Take triple." A continuing problem for O'Neal is

THEFT

CALVIN AND HOBBES

OK, LET'S TEST THIS TRANSMOG-RIFTER GUN.

that he has trouble shooting free throws. He was 4-for-9 on Monday, keeping him under 50 percent for the season. Washington was deliberately fouling him to force him to the line in the waning minutes.

O'Neal also missed a dunk and several more short shots. He had five

NBA ROUNDUP

turnovers, and his flagrant foul of Webber late in the fourth quarter put a symbolic end to the Lakers' hopes. Calbert Cheaney led Washington

with 21 points and eight rebounds. Rod Strickland had 19 points, eight assists and six rebounds.

Hornets 112, Warriors 83 Glen Rice's tearn-record 135-game streak of scoring in double figures ended, but Matt Geiger scored a career-high 29 points to lead Charlotte past road-weary Golden State. Geiger hit 13 of 17 field-goal attempts and grabbed seven rebounds before he and the rest of Charlotte's starters sat out

the last quarter of the Homets' victory Pistons 100, Mavericks 94 Grant Hill scored 35 points as Detroit defeated Dallas in Auburn Hills, Michigan. Jerry Stackhouse had 20 points, including four straight during a crucial run late in the final quarter. Jerome Williams had a career-high 14 rebounds. The Mavericks got 21 points each from Michael

from the free-throw line. Spors 116, Kings 95 Tim Duncan had 29 points and 17 rebounds, and David Robinson had 22 points and 7 blocks as San Antonio won in Sacramento. Robinson played 28 minutes in his second game after missing six with a knee injury.

WANT TO BE A PTERODACTYL, SO YOU THINK OF ONE AND POINT THE TRANSMOGRIFIER AT ME.

Finley and Cedric Ceballos, who had 17

Iona Gains NCAA Berth By Romping Over Siena

The Associated Press

Iona gained its first NCAA tournament berth since 1985 when it beat Siena in the Metro Atlantic final.

John McDonald scored 24 points -10 in a row for the Gaels late in the game -as Iona won, 90-75, on Monday night in Albany, New York, to gain the conference's guaranteed NCAA place. The last two years, the Gaels entered

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference tourney seeded No. 1, but failed to reach

Iona (27-5) won more than 20 games in each of the last two seasons, but settled for National Invitation Tournament bids.

McDonald saved the Gaels whenever Siena (17-12) got close. After the Saints pulled to 68-63 with 5:04 to play, Mc-Donald came through with key baskets and then hit six of seven free throws in

the final 4:34 to keep Iona safely ahead. San Francisco 80, Gonzaga 67 In Santa Clara, California, San Francisco earned its first trip to the NCAAs since 1982 with a 80-67 victory over Gonzaga in the West Coast Conference title game. The Dons, national champs in 1955 and 1956, will be making their

15th tournament appearance. Ra'oof Sadat scored 14 of his careerhigh 18 points in the second half as the Dons (19-10) went on an 11-0 run early in the second half to take a 53-42 lead.

M. J. Nodilo added 16 points for San Francisco, which has won six straight games. Matt Santangelo had 18 points to lead Gonzaga (23-9), the conference's regular-season winner and twice victors over the Dons this year. Farleigh Dickinson 105, Long Island University 91 In New York, Rahshon

Turner scored a career-best 37 points as Fairleigh Dickinson beat Long Island University for the Northeast Conference title. FDU makes its third trip to the NCAA and first since 1988. The Knights (23-6) overcame an 11-

point second-half deficit with a 41-16 run to beat the Blackbirds (21-10) and end LIU's 23-game home winning streak. Illimois State 84, Southwest Missouri

State 74 In St. Louis, LeRoy Watkins had 18

points and Dan Muller 17 as Illinois State (24-5) avenged its only two conference losses by beating Southwest Missouri State (16-16) in the Missouri Valley Conference title game. The Redbirds, winners of 13 of their

last 14 games, became the first MVC tearn to win the regular season and conference tourney titles in consecutive

In the semifinals of the Mid-Continent Conference tournament, Val-paraiso beat Buffalo, 84-73, and Youngstown State defeated Oral Roberts, 75-60. The winners meet tonight with an NCAA berth on the line.

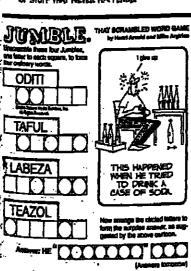
■ Coach in Serious Condition

Charlie Coles, 56, the Miami of Ohio coach, remained in serious but stable condition Tuesday after he suffered a heart attack during a Mid-American Conference tournament game, The Associated Press reported from Kalama-

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GARFIELD

HA!HA! LOOK AT THOSE FLOPPY EARS!

BEETLE BAILEY

LT. FUZZ HAS

HIS REPORT

READY, SIR

PEANUTS













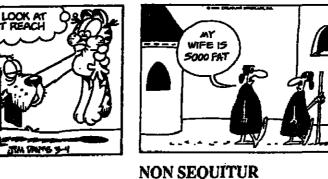


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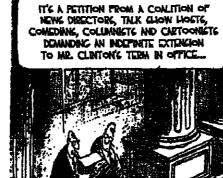
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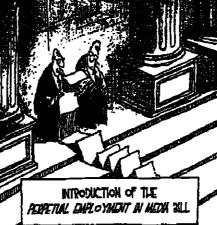






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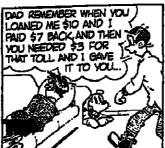
THIS WILL BE GREAT. I'LL
TERRORIZE THE MEIGHBORNHOOD
AMAILE AND THEN YOU CAN
TRANSMORBIN ME BACK TO
A BOY MAEN THE NATIONAL
GUNDO COMES.







RECRUITMENT







OBSERVER

A Most Popular Guy

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — Televi-sion's talking heads and everyone else who professes a lot of savvy about whatever for private seances? is in the air keep telling us why the president's popularity stays high despite the lot of presidents who give the cheesy sex scandal now run-nation's Monica Lewinskys ning in Washington.

Most of these explanations are hot-air emissions based on interviews with a makeup woman just before air time in a Washington TV studio. Tired of such nonsense? Want to know why so many support the president despite the scandal? Listen:

1. High-level executives support him because they have been doing it for years themselves, or plan to do it as soon as they get the nerve. They think that kicking him out would not only set a nasty and destructive precedent, but also stifle initiative.

working stiffs support him "Keep playing around, big because they think Newt Ginfella, and sooner or later grich and Trent Lott would they'll get you, and then I'll give the uptown swells an tellyou'I told you so.'" Now

or resignation would result in President Gore.

4. Republicans support him because they think that, after him because he has made her three more years of Monica famous, if not yet rich.
Lewinsky news, Americans 13. Mothers support hi Democrat feeling their pain.

getting Republican Senator Bob Packwood, the great defender of women's abortion rights, kicked out of office for something besides make kissing the help. Now they think they owe one to male

6. Journalists support him for his proven ability to feed

the ever-gaping maw of the media. How often do they get a president who, having escaped a Gennifer Flowers

7. Poets support him because they don't get an awful copies of Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of Grass.'

scandal, is dim enough to

have a Monica Lewinsky in

8. Lawyers support him because his talent for getting into legal trouble is the greatest boon to their profession since the invention of the billable hour. 9. Wall Street supports him

because while he is not a Republican, neither is he a Democrat

10. Kenneth Starr supports him because without him Starr would lose his chance to appear on network television day and night. 11. Hillary supports him

because she told him so. A 2. Middle- and low-level long time ago she told him, even bigger share of the it is good telling him "I told money than he does. it is good telling him "I told you so." It wouldn't be half 3. Fun lovers support him as good if she had to do it in a because either impeachment furnished flat in Little Rock and read about the brilliance

of First Lady Tipper Gore.
12. Linda Tripp supports 13. Mothers support him be-

will never want another cause he does not tell the whole world the names of girls 5. Feminists support him with whom he may have because they feel bad about passed a pleasant hour or two. with whom he may have

14. Yuppies support him because he never reminds them that they ought to do more money and buy more stupendous sport utility vehicles — in short, because he feels their painlessness.

Paintings That Unlock a Paris Neighborhood

By Alan Riding New York Times Service

PARIS — In their portrayals of Hauss-mannian Paris, many Impressionists projected a mood of timeless comfort and security, as if horse-drawn carriages, men in top hats and women under parasols were merely the latest travelers through an urban landscape that had always looked well. Haussmannian.

Off canvas, however, things were very different: mid-19th-century Paris had become one giant construction site.

Under orders of the all-powerful city planner Baron Georges-Eugene Haussmann, large areas of medieval Paris were torn down and poor residents summarily evicted to create the broad avenues that give the city much of its symmetrical elegance today. With completion of new fortifications in the 1840s, farms and hamlets suddenly became part of Paris, and within 50 years they had been turned into railroad stations, cobblestone plazas, tree-lined avenues, and res-

This period of turmoil is the focus of 'Manet, Monet, La gare Saint-Lazare," a small but beguiling exhibition at the Musee d'Orsay (itself a converted turn-of-the-century railroad station). The show, which runs through May 17, will be presented in almost identical form at the National Gallery of Art in Washington from June 14 to Sept. 20.

Few districts of Paris were transformed more rapidly than the Quartier de l'Europe, where streets took their names from major European cities. At the heart of this neighborbood was the Gare Saint-Lazare, the city's first railroad station, which grew steadily between 1835 and 1886. The giant Pont de l'Europe, built in 1868 astride the train tracks, was hailed as a jewel of urban planning. In brief, the Quartier de l'Europe represented the modern face of Paris.

It was strange, then, that a number of Impressionists should have moved into the neighborhood in the 1870s. Manet, Caillebotte, Morisot and several others became permanent residents, while Monet was frequently drawn back there. Could it be that the smoke and steam rising from the Gare Saint-Lazare appealed to painters who favored impressions over reality?

The exhibition has special appeal here because, along with 13 paintings by Manet, 10 by Monet, 4 by Caillebotte, and works by 5 other artists, it includes 9 drawings and 29



Manet's "Le Chemin de Fer" with the studio doors in the upper left.

context familiar to Parisians.

The exhibition takes visitors back to a bustling part of the city immediately after France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 and the riots of the Paris Commune that followed. And it shows how a handful of artists responded to that time, which also coincided with the rise of the Impressionists and their challenge to the official Salon.

The inspiration for the exhibition was the discovery of a telling detail in a painting by Manet, "Le Chemin de Fer" (1872-73). The painting shows what appears to be a governess, sitting with a book and puppy on her lap and looking directly at the artist. Beside her, a young girl in a pale blue frock stands looking through iron railings towards the smoke-filled tracks of the Gare Saint-Lazare. The identity of the girl is not known; the governess" is Victorine Meurent, who was also Manet's model for "Le Dejeuner sur I'Herbe'' and "Olympia."

While studying the painting in preparation

prints that help place the works in an urban for an exhibition in 1994. Juliet Wilson-Bareau, a British curator, became fascinated with two wooden doors on the far side of the tracks that can be seen above the governess' hat To her delight, Wilson-Bareau discovered that one was the door to Manet's studio at 4 Rue de Saint-Petersbourg, where he worked from 1872 to 1878. The doors and the studio, currently used for dance classes, are still there. The view that Manet had from the other side of the tracks is now blocked by a 1930s post office.

Wilson-Barean calculated that Manet did his original sketch from the tiny garden of a new row of apartment buildings on Rue de Rome. Spotting a small shift in perspective, she then surmised that the painting itself was probably done from the studio of a fellow artist, Alphonse Hirsch, on the fourth floor of 58 Rue de Rome.

When I presented my finding in a lecture at the National Gallery of Art in Washington in 1995, it was suggested that I or- ment. Thanks to this show, it has now been ganize a small show around this discovery,"

she explained. "But the exhibition grew." "The painting marks a turning point, looking ahead to the Impressionist years," she said. "In the end, we decided to reflect on the moment immediately after the war and the Commune, to explain the quarter and the importance of the Gare Saint-Lazare, to show how art develops from an artist's

everyday experience." "Le Chemin de Fer" was Manet's only painting of the period that he sketched out-doors. But he did numerous paintings and drawings of views from his studio windows. notably of life on the adjacent Rue Mosnier (now Rue Berne), among them "Rue Mosnier

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ips Over a With Flags" (1878), which is in this show.

No less important, his studio became a gathering place for artists and writers like Zola and Mallarme. In 1876, angered that two of his paintings had been rejected by that year's official Salon, Manet exhibited his works in his studio, inviting press and public.

Monet, who lived in a hotel near the Gare Saint-Lazare upon his remm in the fall of 1871 from wartime exile in London, was a frequent visitor to the studio. And already in 1872, he showed his interest in railroad stations when he painted "La Gare d'Argenteuil."

But it was not until January 1877 that he obtained permission to install himself for several weeks inside the Gare Saint-Lazare itself. The result was the first of his famous series, in this case 11 paintings of the station. 9 of them in this show.

The paintings, which were hailed when

sented at the third Impressionist Exhibition in 1877, are a far cry from his later, far quieter, Rouen Cathedral, poplars and lilies series. Indeed, with little effort, it is still possible to gaze at the oils and smell the smoke, hear the roar and feel the shudder as steam engines shunted in an out along the platforms of the Gare Saint-Lazare. In some cases, Monet even placed himself outside the station, between the tracks, as if determined to expose his every sense to the experience.

Within a few years, the artists had exhausted the possibilities of the Quartier de l'Europe. Manet died in 1883, Monet would soon settle in Giverny, and by the end of the century Montmartre, the traditional artists' district, was sharing the privilege with the Left Bank.

Today, the quarter seems an unlikely source of artistic inspiration. But the Gare Saint-Lazare and its environs had their mo-

PEOPLE

the makers of "The Full Monty" for allegedly plagiarizing their play about a group of unemployed men who stage a striptease act. In a lawsuit filed in federal court in Los Angeles, Andrew McCarten and Stephen Sinclair, contend that the film's basic premise, its setting in the economically strapped north of England and some of its characters were drawn from their 1987 play "Ladies Night."

The suit names Fox Searchlight, its parent 20th was named a commander of the Legion of Century-Fox Film Corp., Redwave Films, the Honor. He has written and performed more and perversion, "according to reports Tueswriter, Simon Beautoy, and the director,

A Halfway Home for Keiko

The Associated Press

NEWPORT, Oregon - The group that rescued Keiko, the star of the film "Free Willy," from a cramped Mexico City amusement park two years ago have unveiled a scale model of the floating pen that will be used to adapt the killer whale to his eventual home in the North Atlantic.

WO New Zealand playwrights have sued which cost only \$3.5 million to make, has yer for the mass murderer Ted Bundy, was dom," in 1975, portraying a deranged bid to

President Jacques Chirac on Tuesday including the crooner Charles Trenet, the pop singer Sheila, and the actress Michele

, who has sold more than 70 million records, was named a knight of the Legion of Honor. Morgan was Merit. Also honored were the actress Rosy Varte, the former ballet star Yvette Chauvire and Jean Favier, a medieval scholar and former head of the National Archives.

The U.S. Supreme Court, without comment, let stand rulings that John Grisham did not illegally borrow from another book in writing "The Chamber." Polly Nelson, who wrote banned in Italy was the late Pier Paolo and Deliverance Church would have been "Defending the Devil" about being the law- Pasolini's "Salo, or the 120 Days of So- evicted from its warehouse.

trying to revive her copyright-infringement set up a sadistic regime in the last days of lawsuit against Grisham. Nelson's book was Italian fascism. published in 1994, a few weeks after Grisham's best-seller came out. A federal decorated a number of French entertainers, judge in 1996 dismissed her claim, and an appeals court upheld the dismissal last year.

than 1,000 songs during a career that has day, sparking a dispute over freedom of "Toto che visse due volte" (Toto Lived Twice), which represented Italy in the Pannamed grand officer of the National Order of orama section of the Berlin Film Festival last month. But Culture Minister Walter Veltroni joined figures from the film world in condemning the ruling. "I can understand banning a film to minors of less than 18. That exists in all countries," he said in Milan. "But preventive censorship does not recall the best days in our history." The film was made by the Sicilian directors Daniele Cipri and Franco Maresco. The last movie to be running. Without the money, the Power, Faith

A woman who says she once was Bob Dylan's girlfriend is putting the finishing touches to a tell-all book challenging some aspects of the official version of his life, the New York Post says. Susan Ross claims Dylan has been married not once but three times and that he has nearly twice as many children as his biography says. According to Sara Lowndes. The couple had five children including Jakob, now a pop star in his own right with the Wallflowers, and divorced in

Sylvester Stallone has paid \$20,000 for the movie rights to the story of a Florida pastor who works with drug addicts and the homeless. The money will keep Vincent Spann's church in the Overtown area of Miami up and



President Jacques Chirac and Michele Morgan.





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